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JANUARY, 1935

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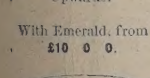
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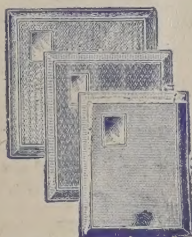
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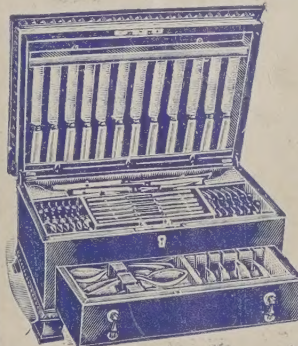


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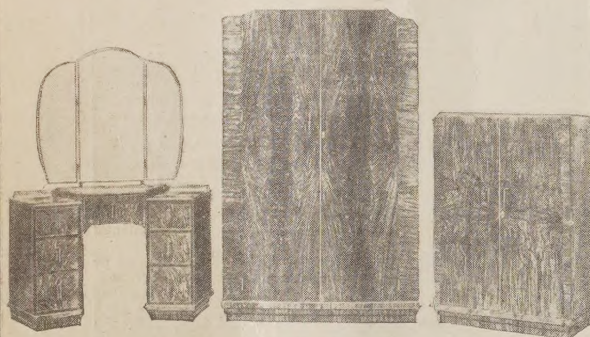
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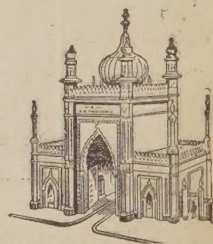
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Local Government Service

No. 1

JANUARY, 1935

Vol. XVI

MINISTER OF LABOUR'S PLEA FOR WHITLEYISM

THE RT. HON. OLIVER STANLEY, M.P., DISCUSSES THE FUNDAMENTALS
OF THE SYSTEM



THE RT. HON. OLIVER STANLEY, M.P.

As Minister of Labour, the Rt. Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.P., is, of course, keenly interested in the development of Whitleyism — "the new and better method of settling disputes," as he aptly describes it. Mr. Stanley demonstrated his practical support of the application of Whitleyism to the Local Government Service when he addressed the annual conference of the Lancashire and Cheshire Local Authorities held under the auspices of the Lancashire and Cheshire Whitley Council Local Authorities' Non-Trading Service and the Lancashire and Cheshire Provincial Council for the Professional, Technical, Administrative, and Clerical Services of Local Authorities. We have pleasure in reproducing below in extenso Mr. Stanley's speech on that occasion.—EDITOR, "L.G.S."

MY Lord Mayor, ladies and gentlemen—It is a great personal pleasure for me to come here this afternoon. I feel that I have a personal affiliation with a Whitley Council of this kind. It must always be satisfactory for a Minister of Labour to come to a gathering of this kind. As you, my Lord Mayor, so rightly said, the chief preoccupation of any holder of my office must be that during his term, as far as possible, he should be able to point proudly to a maintenance of industrial peace.

No one can estimate the damage—not only the material damage but the moral damage, too—that is caused by old-outworn methods of settling disputes merely

by fighting. No one is the better for it; neither the victor nor the vanquished. It leaves behind it not only a story of lost orders, of lost confidence, but a trail of bitter memories which do no good to either side.

The New and Better Method

Any Minister of Labour must be glad to give a welcome to a body which is successfully working the new and better method of settling disputes by not letting them arise, of recognising frankly, on both sides of the table, that each of you have your obligations and each of you have your rights, and that unless you are prepared to respect the rights of others and bear your own obligations you cannot expect the other side to treat you as you would like to be treated by them.

The history of Whitleyism in this country has been a fascinating and an important one. I venture to say that in many countries abroad where they have adopted, instead of our voluntary system, some form of compulsion, they look with envy upon a national character which is able to attain the same and better results by means of purely voluntary effort. It is, of course, the first fundamental of Whitleyism that the associations which come in on one side and the other shall be voluntary associations. The people sit round the table because they want to sit there, not because they are driven to do it; they come to the meetings because they believe that out of the meetings can come some good results, not simply because if they do not come there is some penalty which can be imposed. It is that voluntary coming together which, I believe, makes so tremendously for a real striving for effective result rather than a mere display of antagonistic views.

A Central Body

The second feature of Whitleyism to which I attach great importance is the maintenance of the central principle; that you should have a central body which can lay down broad lines of policy upon broad issues, and which can maintain throughout the country, in the particular society with which they are concerned, broad stan-

dards of uniformity; that then you superimpose upon that the narrower district councils, the narrower functional councils, where individuals on both sides have a chance of meeting each other, where the individual reactions can be tested, and individual points and individual differences in localities and conditions can be properly dealt with.

I believe that when, after the war, this system of Whitleyism was instituted it was founded on a sure basis, and the test is that, despite the very difficult times that we have come through, although, of course, there have been losses here and there have been set-backs there, yet I think we can say that Whitleyism has emerged triumphant, and it stands now as a sure part of our national life.

The Feeling of Security

Ladies and gentlemen, one point in connection with your own particular work which we cannot afford to ignore is the effect that your council, and the results of its work, have had upon local government staffs in general. It is the feeling of security which you have given, the feeling that their conditions are dependent not upon a breeze or political tempest which may blow favourably one moment and unfavourably the next, but upon a broadly accepted line of policy throughout the country. It is that feeling of security which so immeasurably enhances their status, and so immeasurably improves their opportunity of doing good and valuable work.

I do not think anyone can measure the gain that we in this country have had, first of all, in national government and now in local government, from an experienced and skilled staff who are sure of their position, who have a security of tenure and a decency of condition which is not dependent merely upon the political whims of the moment. If we look across the ocean, which I suppose in these days of aeroplanes is like looking across the street, we can measure what America has lost, what America suffers to-day, from a lack of the security and the independence and responsibility which security gives

(Continued on next page)

MINISTER OF LABOUR'S PLEA FOR WHITLEYISM

(Continued from preceding page)

among the staffs who have to administer their federal and their state government. I can think of no more valuable work done for not only local administration but for national interests than has been done by Whitley Councils in your particular area.

There are, I think, a good many lessons which a Minister of Labour can learn from attending meetings of this kind throughout the country. All of us, I imagine, who are prepared to face the future with realistic eyes have already come to the conclusion that, at any rate, to some extent the rather haphazard methods of older generations have passed away, and that in the modern complex civilisation which faces us there is no room any longer for the waste which those methods used to imply. We have realised that we cannot afford, as I said before, the loss and disorganisation of industrial disputes; that we cannot afford any longer a suicidal policy of undercutting and bad conditions, and all of us have agreed that somehow or other we have got to find some means in the years to come of putting an end to conditions of that kind.

Industrial Planning

There are some who tell us: "Well, you must plan, you must adopt some general scheme applicable to the whole country, applied to industry with a capital 'I,' and within that everyone will have to move and to work." Well, the more I see of individual organisations dealing with individual interests the more I realise the difficulties that lie in any course of that kind. We are not dealing with a new country. We are dealing with the oldest industrial country in the world. You have, first of all, upon the side of the employer immense divergence in the industrial difficulties and conditions. You have, then, on the side of the employed what may be centuries of traditions and privileges, hardly won, customs which have been handed down in the trade from father to son; no bad thing if it gives to the individual a sense of pride and a feeling of responsibility in his job. I very much wonder whether in a country of that kind there is any plan in which you can hope successfully to fit all those divergencies upon one side or the other. The danger is that if you try to deal with it on a firm basis of that kind that you will try to squeeze your individuals into your plan instead of making your plan fit your individuals.

I believe that it is not the function of the Minister of Labour of the Government of the day to coerce, to threaten, or to instruct. It seems to me that as long as you all have got the same end in view that it is much better that you should travel on the road that seems best to you, that is most appropriate to your particular industry, or to your particular interest,

rather than that you should be made to travel only on the road which the Minister of Labour selects.

Encouragement—assistance—yes; all that lies within my power; every help that I can give to anybody who has got the same desires, the same needs, in view that I have; but coercion, I think, should only be reserved for those few, and I am glad to think they are few, who have not yet opened their eyes to the modern conditions; who are not yet even studying the problems that you have already solved, and who, only, if they make no effort to find a road for themselves would have to have a road pointed out to them.

So, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me to come here this afternoon to do nothing more than to say "Thank you" to a large number of men and women who have given up a great deal of their time to doing a most valuable service, and to advance what, from my point of view, is the most important thing in the country to-day, and that is the cause of industrial peace.

PUBLICATIONS ON WHITLEYISM

Copies of the following publications of the Association may be obtained by Branch Secretaries on application to Headquarters:—

"The Whitley Council System in the Local Government Service." A brief statement of the case for Whitleyism in the Service, extracts from N.A.L.G.O. evidence to the Royal Commission and Departmental Committee, Conference Resolutions, List of Provincial Council areas, Model Draft Constitutions for Provincial Whitley Councils and Local Joint Committees.

"Whitleyism—Principles and Practice."

Questions and Answers on matters which will arise in the minds of members considering the whys and wherefores of Whitleyism.

"Two Opinions on Whitleyism."

(1) Digest of an address by the Rt. Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.P., Minister of Labour, delivered in Manchester.

(2) By the General Secretary, N.A.L.G.O.

A presentation was made to Mr. S. Penhale, a member of the Port Talbot Borough Treasurer's staff, to mark the occasion of his marriage. The presentation took the form of a grandfather clock, which was handed over on behalf of the staff and officials by Mr. Gwilym Davies (Borough Treasurer). Mr. Llewellyn Thomas, chairman of the local branch of N.A.L.G.O., presided over the gathering, and tributes were paid by Mr. Garfield Richards (Borough Engineer) and others.

(Continued from column 3)

case of N.A.L.G.O. policies, at any rate for the time being, and it is their desire that no higher premiums should be charged to members of N.A.L.G.O. unless it is found quite impossible to continue the present rates. Experience alone will show whether this will be possible and we are quite satisfied that we may look to the underwriters to do everything that can be done to avoid higher premiums, that is to say, everything which is consistent with the principle to which they have always adhered, that the service afforded the policy-holder and the settlement of claims shall not fall short of the very high standard of Lloyd's.

MOTOR INSURANCE

NO INCREASE IN NALGO RATES

THE Road Traffic Act, 1934, which has brought about amendments regarding the compulsory insurance of Third Party risks in respect of motor vehicles, comes into force on January 1, 1935.

The holders of car and cycle policies issued under the N.A.L.G.O. scheme are asked to note, however, that by arrangement with the Ministry of Transport, these amendments will not necessitate immediate alteration of their certificates of insurance. Policies will also be deemed to comply with the provisions of the new Act until renewal.

Except where individual notice might be given by the brokers, the certificates of insurance already held will suffice until the policies are renewed when new certificates will be issued.

The operation of the new Act will necessitate considerable amendment in the terms and conditions upon which motor insurance policies are issued, and will add to the liabilities which must be borne by the insurers in respect of indemnity to third parties for death or personal injury.

One of these additional liabilities is the obligation imposed on the motorist by Section 16 of the Act which makes it compulsory for him to pay for what is known as "emergency treatment," that is to say, medical or surgical treatment which may be necessary immediately in the case of an accident causing injury to any person as a result of the use of a motor vehicle.

The amount payable is a fee of 12s. 6d. in respect of each person in whose case the "emergency treatment" is given, plus an additional charge which varies according to distance, if the medical practitioner is summoned from a greater distance than two miles.

The cost of this "emergency treatment" will be made good by the underwriters and since the motorist is liable for the charge whether the accident is due to any fault or negligence on his part or not, a payment under the policy for "emergency treatment" will not, by itself, deprive the policy-holder of his right to receive a No Claim bonus if his policy is renewed.

A further effect of the Road Traffic Act, 1934, will be to render ineffective certain conditions which have been included in some motor insurances in the past for the purpose of protecting the underwriters or defining, as clearly as possible, the purposes for which the vehicle may be used.

It is true that the Act confers upon the underwriters the right to recover in such cases from the policy-holder any sums which have been paid on account of the ineffectiveness of these conditions, but which would not hitherto have been payable, by reason of the policy conditions, but if the underwriters are unable, for any reason, such as the financial position of the policy-holder or the like, to recover they must bear the loss. This provision of the Act, therefore, cannot be looked upon otherwise than as a further addition to the liability of the underwriters.

It is quite generally known that the underwriting results produced by motor insurance business has proved to be very much more unsatisfactory in certain parts of the country than in others and because of this and the extra risks which they must now assume, the Tariff Insurance Companies have decided that the rates of premium, in these unsatisfactory areas, must be increased for all insurances accepted by them on and after January 1, 1935.

The increase affects the Metropolitan Police district in which the rates of premium for car insurances have been loaded by 10 per cent. (except the London Postal Area, in which the increase is as much as 20 per cent.). A 10 per cent. additional charge is also to be made on risks accepted in that part of the county of Lancashire which is south of the River Ribble.

The tariff premiums for motor-cycle insurances have also been raised considerably.

The N.A.L.G.O. underwriters have decided that no such increases will be put into effect in the

(Continued at foot of column 2)

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Have you ever realised that friend and employer alike are influenced by your manner of speaking and writing? If you fumble for words or make grammatical slips you are constantly giving an unfavourable impression of yourself.

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Effective English

Number TWO

Is Your English a Handicap?

By JOHN TEMPLE

Are you sure of your English? The importance of that question cannot be over-estimated, for whatever your walk in life your English can make you or mar you.

No matter what ability you may possess in other directions, you are gravely handicapped if your English is defective. You may be denied promotion for which you are qualified in other respects. Inability to use English effectively can involve serious embarrassment and loss.

Have you continually to guard yourself against saying the wrong thing or saying the right thing so clumsily that its effect is ruined? Or are you one of those who so far have not suspected that they are handicapped by their English? If your language power is faulty what has been the effect of your disability on you up to the present? Maybe you could have advanced twice as far in your business, professional or social life as you have done.

Even if your English is grammatically correct it may not be effective. Weak expression can be almost as detrimental as incorrect English, for it results in failure to convey one's thoughts adequately. Many educated people are misunderstood, criticised or even ignored because they

lack the power to express their thoughts in a forceful, winning way.

How can you tell whether your English is weak? Only by looking at results, by studying other people's reactions to what you say and write. Do you fail to create the impression you desire? Do people listen inattentively and unappreciatively to you? Have you a feeling that you are overlooked and that only scant attention is paid to what you say or write? Are you suffering from an "inferiority complex"?

If your answer to any of those questions is in the affirmative there is but little doubt that your English is at fault, for in nine cases out of ten failure to win attention is due to inability to express oneself effectively.

Good English is not only the hallmark of culture; it is a key to success.

* * * * *

In its ten lessons in Effective English and Personal Efficiency, a spare-time Course which because of its fascination, seems more like a delightful hobby than a scientific study system, the Regent Institute provides a remedy for the troubles outlined in this article. If you lack the ability to express yourself effectively and are handicapped socially or in business as a result, here at moderate cost is the means of supplying your deficiency.

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If you cannot think of a subject, select one of the following: My Most Interesting Experience; How to Choose a Present; The Ideal Holiday; Have Inventions Made Life Happier? If I Could Begin Again; My Interesting Job.

NATIONAL ORGANISATION PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AT L.C.C. BRANCH MEETING

SOME thoughtful observations on the question of national organisation were made by Mr. Gordon Miles in his presidential address at the annual general meeting of the London County Council Branch of N.A.L.G.O. He dealt with the necessity for organising the Local Government Service nationally in order that it may carry out effectively the greatly augmented duties of local public administration. The performance of their daily work, he said, made them rather inclined to forget the new ideas which underlay much of the legislation of recent years.

Filling in the Details

This legislation could do no more than outline the tasks which lay before them; the difficult work of filling in the details had still to be accomplished. Since the war, local authorities had taken on duties which far transcended anything undertaken by them previously. For example, one of the purposes of the Local Government Act, 1929, was to establish throughout the country a chain of public hospitals which would render medical and surgical treatment available to all who are in need. This was a step which almost paralleled in importance the establishment of State Education. The enormous task of local authorities in administering this great national hospital service would need always the loyal co-operation of all staffs concerned.

A further example of the additional responsibilities of local authorities was provided by the many Housing Acts. In Poor Law, too, there had been a great change, mainly in the spirit of the law. In the old days destitution was regarded rather as the fault of the individual; now it was viewed as mainly a failure on the part of authority. Such a change of front demanded an overhaul, and possibly a complete recasting, of the old forms of administration.

The three great new services of public health, public education and public assistance, which so vitally affected the material environment of the nation as a whole, had, it was true, been placed in the hands of localities. Nevertheless, they were in essence national and not parochial tasks, and local government officers must realise that the importance of their work demanded, in their own interests, and in the interests of those whom they served, that truly national organisation which in local government could only be found in N.A.L.G.O.

Future National Problems

At the Public Health Congress recently, Dr. I. G. Gibbon, of the Ministry of Health, had suggested that there was a lack of vision amongst local authorities as to the creation of new ideas in the field of administration. The work of councillors on local authorities was usually of a spare-time nature. Was it to be expected that they could devote enough time to national problems of the future? This must surely be the work of Whitehall and Parliament, but, wherever it was done, local government officers were charged with the responsibility of administering the new and changing conditions.

In conclusion, Mr. Miles asked all present to use their influence among their non-member colleagues to encourage an appreciation of the future national development of local government. In spreading the gospel of national unity the need for local government officers to work together in harmony and with an enthusiasm for their calling was not less than the necessity for strength of numbers in a nationally-organised service.

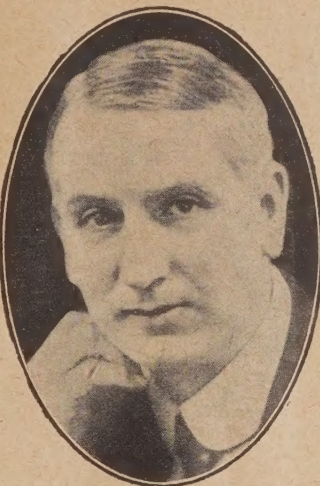
Mr. Thos. M. Kershaw, Divisional Organising Secretary, presenting the annual report of the branch, drew particular attention to the item dealing with organisation. In all areas and sections there had been considerable activity in propaganda and recruitment during the past year and extensive developments of the service section system might be anticipated at an early date to run concurrently with a scheme providing for the constitution of group committees throughout the Metropolitan District Area.

LOOKING BACKWARDS: AND A PEEP INTO THE FUTURE

By W. E. LLOYD, Junior Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer

AT the commencement of a new year it is appropriate to review the operations of the Association and look forward to the development of its influence and usefulness.

During the past twelve months N.A.L.G.O.'s work has proved most effective in all directions.



Mr. W. E. LLOYD, F.S.A.A.,
Borough Treasurer of Hampstead, Junior
Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer

All but a few local authorities have been induced to repair the "cuts" which they made in their officers' salaries when they imagined that that was the best means of effecting economies—peculiar mentality! Disgrunting the crew of a ship entering upon shoals in dirty weather is not calculated to make the sailing safer. A certain local authority did not "cut"; consequently the rate for purposes over which they had control was reduced by 25 per cent., without sacrificing efficiency.

Several local authorities adopted superannuation schemes during the year, but there are still many who are waiting until they are compelled to do so. In this connection I may observe that there are local authorities who really think that a superannuation scheme is an expense. I have been able to prove that a borough council which adopted one in the year 1924 is now profiting by it. In other words, were it possible to scrap it, the local authority would have to budget under other heads of expenditure for amounts greater in the aggregate than is at present provided under the heading of "Superannuation."

The Main Work

The membership of N.A.L.G.O. has increased substantially and the staff has been augmented to cope with the work. A few members, however, recently expressed dissatisfaction with the large extension of N.A.L.G.O.'s general operations and consequential increase in the costs of administration, on the assumption that more attention is being paid to the ancillaries than to the main aims and objects—quite groundless, of course. Fully nine-tenths of the time and attention of the National Executive Council is given to service conditions, legal aid, and educational matters. Every ancillary is run by a specially appointed management committee, each of which is practically autonomous, and not constituted entirely of members of the National Executive Council. These special bodies merely report their proceedings to the National Executive Council. Their work and

usefulness, however, form a strong support to the main aims and objects of the Association.

As an association, N.A.L.G.O. is unique. It would not surprise me to hear of organisations on similar lines being established in other countries, particularly in America. In the autumn, I had the privilege of assisting the General Secretary in entertaining several mayors and other illustrious representatives of American local government, who openly expressed their envy of our wonderful organisation.

Forthcoming Developments

Nineteen-thirty-five will be the centenary year of municipal government as constituted by the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835. Arrangements have been made for visiting several continental cities and for interviewing prominent people concerned with civic management.

Already N.A.L.G.O.'s name stands high in the list of supporters of the International Union of Local Authorities upon the council of which it is well represented.

We may look forward in the new year to a marked development of our publicity, an improvement in the form and scope of our Service Journal, and an extension of our educational policy. Is it too much to hope for a compulsory superannuation measure, and pensions for widows? I think not.

As to our ancillaries, they are all so well founded and well-managed that financial success is assured. The Provident Society continues to increase in membership; so does the Approved Society; the business of the insurance section progresses by leaps and bounds, while the Building Society is rapidly assuming gigantic proportions.

Our executive staff, from the General Secretary down to the last recruit, is a monument of efficiency, and on such a sure foundation I look forward with optimism to the coming year's work, heavy though it will be, necessarily.

GRAMOPHONE NOTES

H.M.V.'s latest issue of gramophone records consists mainly of seasonal light-hearted fare. Many records included in the "His Master's Voice" special Christmas list made ideal holiday entertainment. Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse and the Silly Symphony, has now had his art transferred to the gramophone record; on H.M.V. B6555, Raymond Paige and His Orchestra play two foxtrots, "The Wise Little Hen" and "The Grasshopper and the Ants," which will be familiar to cinemagoers. Another interesting comedy disc is "Round the Roundabout" (H.M.V. B8252), played by the New Mayfair Novelty Orchestra, with George Baker as the vocalist. Filmgoers are catered for also, on H.M.V. B8249, in which Victoria Hopper is heard singing "Love's Wisdom" and "Lorna's Song," which were written especially for the film, *Lorna Doone*. "The Continental," an intriguing foxtrots which is included in *The Gay Divorce*, is recorded on H.M.V. B6554, and is coupled with the waltz song from *The Merry Widow* played by Paul Whiteman and His Orchestra.

The Thanet and District Sub-branch of the Kent County Officers' Guild report with deep regret the death of Miss E. E. Archer, Supt. Nurse at the Thanet Institution, Minster, near Ramsgate. Miss Archer was a very keen member of N.A.L.G.O., and through her whole-hearted support was the means of obtaining many of the institution staff as members of the association.

AT RANDOM: COMMENTARY ON CURRENT TOPICS

By HYPERION

A N.A.L.G.O. Cheer!

N.A.L.G.O. has its own tie, scarf, sports blazer, tobacco pouch, song, and I forget what else.

Why not a N.A.L.G.O. "Cheer"? You know the sort of thing I mean:—

"Nalگو! Nalگو! Rah! Rah! Rah!"
It would, I think, be very useful at the Annual Conference and on other "state occasions."

Two of the best-known cheers are the Yale "cheer," partly taken from the "Frogs" of Aristophanes:—

Brekekekex, ko-ax, ko-ax,
Brekekekex, ko-ax, ko-ax,
O-öp, O-öp, parabölöü,
Yah, yah, yah,
Rah, rah, rah, rah, rah, rah, rah,
Yale! Yale! Yale!
and Princeton's famous "triple cheer":—
H'ray, h'ray, h'ray,
Tiger, tiger, tiger,
Siss, siss, siss,
Boom, boom, boom,
Ah, ah, ah,
Princeton! Princeton! Princeton!

Now who will suggest a suitable cheer for "Nalگو?"

* * *

What To Do With Our Sons

Here is an amusing letter written by an American who apparently hopes to be a beneficiary of the N.R.A. It suggests a new answer to the ever-recurring question: "What shall I do with my son?"

SIR,—A friend of mine in New England has a neighbour who has received a check for 1,000 dollars this year for not raising hogs. So my friend now wants to go into the business himself, he not being very prosperous just now; he says, in fact, that the idea of not raising hogs appeals to him very strongly. Of course, he will need a hired man, and that is where I come in. I write to you as to your opinion of the best kind of farm not to raise hogs on, the best strain of hogs not to raise, and how best to keep an inventory of hogs you are not raising. Also do you think capital could be raised by issuance of a non-hog-raising gold bond?

The friend who got the thousand dollars got it for not raising 500 hogs. Now we figure we might easily not raise 1,500 or 2,000 hogs, so you see the possible profits are only limited by the number of hogs we do not raise. The other fellow had been raising hogs for forty years and never made more than 400 dollars in any one year. Kind of pathetic, isn't it, to think how he wasted his life raising hogs when he could have made so much more by not raising them!

* * *

A propos, I see that a correspondent of the *New Statesman* has stated that not raising hops in this country is almost as lucrative a business as not raising hogs in the U.S.A. A friend of his purchased two hop kilns and some land on the borders of Kent. He altered a kiln into a dwelling house and started a hen farm. A month ago he received a letter offering £130 for his "hop quota." He did not answer, and a week later he was offered £300. Consulting a lawyer, who counselled delay, he has now disposed of his "quota" for a sum of £800.

These Hurrying Years

Very few people nowadays possess a synoptic mind—the ability to see divers subjects in proper proportion and perspective. By his book, "These Hurrying Years," which is an admirable historical outline of the period 1900–1933, Gerald Heard has proved that he, at any rate, has this gift.

Mr. Heard deals not only with the political trend of these years, but achieves an admirable summary of the advances made in research, hygiene and psychology, and also of the development of literature, painting, and architecture during that period.

Here is an interesting comment of his on the subject of specialisation:—

"Specialisation means, and must mean, the dissipation of responsibility. Most men may object to carrying out torture by scourging or to killing in cold blood a fellow-creature, but modern state methods have so spread responsibility through specialisation of function that no one feels the actual, crucial, compelling, moral responsibility which says: *I have done this and I am guilty of a crime against my conscience.* The judge and jury do not carry out, or even see carried out, the sentence; the prison officials do not have a word in inflicting the sentence. So, too, with the large-scale disasters and crimes of social life, the wards which torture and execute communities—specialisation has made everyone feel irresponsible. Since 1900 that specialisation has grown to an almost insane degree. The politician drifts into war; the soldier carries out the sentence, priding himself that he is relieved of any responsibility for the 'dirty work of politics'; more, the chemist with metals, explosives, gas, makes the inventions which make war grow ever more the chief enemy of civilisation, of which the pure researching scientist is one of the most wonderful and could be one of the most precious growths."

Here is another extract which I think should be of interest to local government officers:—

"It seems, then, that the revolt of the middle classes which we are watching to-day (though at present blind reaction, partly against the fear of other nations and partly the insults and threats of Communism) really marks the rise of professionalism. On its positive side it is the assertion of two new truths—one, that modern society is not made up simply of workers and usurers, but of a third essential but disregarded estate, the managers, the experts, the technicians; and, two, the modern technical society is not run by greed or fear of class-consciousness, but through the love the expert has in performing his skilled work ever more efficiently. . . . The social movement of to-day is, then, a dawning consciousness among the specialised experts that they can no longer leave the direction and exploitation of their essential services in the hands of men who do not understand the pursuit of truth, the love of precision and exactitude, and the patient submission to ascertained fact, which have built up, now sustain, and are essential to the advancement of all technical undertaking. From this dawning consciousness there must arise first a resolve to refuse to serve anachronisms and delusions, then a determination to create at least enough social order to assure that the special studies will not be extinguished through general social collapse, and finally a policy, a social plan, which shall assure the same spirit of critical understanding and reasonable arrangement in human relationships and all government as have succeeded so well in all the specialised services in which they have been employed."

Two Municipal Novels

The publication of a novel dealing with municipal life is a comparatively rare event. Curiously enough, two such novels have been published within a few months of each other—"His Worship the Mayor," by Walter Greenwood, and "The Knights of Selsby," by Paul Williams.

"His Worship the Mayor" is an extremely well-written book, although I think Mr. Greenwood takes too pessimistic a view of the inhabitants of the north country "two cities" which are the subject of his book. The drab life of the underdog is admirably described (Mr. Greenwood is also the author of "Love on the Dole"), but it was a mistake, I think, for all the councillors and aldermen in the book to be depicted as such extremely unpleasant people and for all their transactions to be conducted in the whisky-cum-cigar atmosphere which Mr. Greenwood describes with such satirical glee.

The author of "The Knights of Selsby" also knows how to tell a story, but to me his characters did not come alive in the same way as those in "His Worship the Mayor." The theme of Mr. Williams' novel is the implacable rivalry between two of the wealthiest citizens in an

eastern seaside town. Their shady behaviour involves the town in a Home Office inquiry.

"Post hoc, ergo propter hoc"

I make no apologies for reproducing this old "chestnut." Personally, I can always re-read it with a smile, and anyway it's topical—or should be—this month!

Dear Billy,—How extremely kind of you to send me that case of whisky for Christmas. I have never tasted such marvellous whisky, and I keep tasting it.

The whisky you have sent for Christmas is marvellous. I keep tashing it and how kind of you to send me this wonderful whishky for Xmas which I keep tashing.

Its realy really its miskind of you to keep-send-keeping tashing for Xmas and tashing hic tock dickory dock.

What kind whishky ole man howe ex thash es stremlly marvellous to tash Xmas your great friend thathank you ole for estreeextra whwhishishky ininiaina cashaase 6jo you xxx Kindse kisses Kisemas & xMu (£11).

Y111£ old PPA !!!!!,
Sheerio Ol' £&16g

Vive le Sport

I have always said that there is nothing like sport for bringing people together, whether it be individuals or nations! Look at the Anglo-American yacht race between the *Endeavour* and the *Rainbow*, or the "body-line" bowling controversy, and last but not least the Anglo-Italian soccer match which, I hear, has already had some repercussions in the relationship between Italy and Yugoslavia. All resulted in those feelings of amity and friendliness which are the hall-mark of sportsmen the world over.

"Who cares a jot

If a goal be got

Whether a game be killing or not . . .

Play up, you cads, and play the game."

(As the Western Brothers would say.)

What a hope!

And now I see that "our distinguished contemporary" (I think that is the correct phrase), the *Daily Mirror*, recently made the following pronouncement:—

"The combined efforts of half a dozen of the greatest politicians and business men in England cannot do more for the prestige of this country than our football team can do to-day."

Well, well!

Pedestrian Crossings Aga'n

The Minister of Transport has said: "I wish to make it clear to pedestrians that they have a complete right of way at all uncontrolled crossings, and to emphasise that it is the positive duty of the motorist to give priority to the pedestrian."

These instructions make one think of the American epitaph:

"This is the tomb of William Jay,
Who died maintaining his right of way,
He was right, dead right as he sped along,
But he's just as dead as if he'd been wrong."

Thoughts for the Month

(1) "Keep the faculty of effort alive in you by a little gratuitous effort every day. Every day do something for no other reason than its difficulty, so that if an hour of need should come it may find you trained to stand the test."—William James.

(2) "The main dangers in this life are the people who want to change every—or nothing."—Lady Astor.

* * *

A little boy had been taken to see the toys department at one of the big West End shops. On returning home, his mother said: "Well, dear, did you see Santa Claus?"

"Oh yes, Mummie, he was wearing a lovely red cloak and had a great big white beard and long white hair."

"And what did Santa Claus say to you?"

"He said, 'Put that d——d train down!'"

SLANDER ACTION BY HULL OFFICIAL

Chief Valuation Officer Vindicated

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a public apology which has been published by ex-Councillor Jacobs, a former member of the Valuation Committee of the Hull Corporation.

At a meeting of the committee, held on July 10 last, Mr. Jacobs (at that time a member of the City Council) made definite statements which constituted a very serious slander upon the city valuation officer, Major Boyd. The statements to which objection was taken were that Major Boyd, in assessing property occupied by Mr. Jacobs, "victimised" him, thereby inferring that Major Boyd had selected him for special treatment to his (Mr. Jacobs') detriment. Major Boyd immediately placed the matter in the hands of his solicitors.

Through his solicitors, Mr. Jacobs stated that the statements to which exception was taken were based upon data obtained by him which were proved to be incorrect. This had led him to believe that he was being unfairly treated. He withdrew the statements reflecting upon the character of Major Boyd, and apologised for the trouble and annoyance he had caused. He also offered to publish a full and complete apology in the local press and in any other newspapers Major Boyd desired, and in addition to pay his costs. Further, he was prepared to offer a complete explanation and apology before the ordinary business of the next meeting of the City Council.

Major Boyd's solicitors refused to accept the offer in satisfaction of the claim, and pressed for damages for their client for the wrong which had been done to him. A writ was accordingly issued. The case was down for hearing at the Leeds Assizes, but almost at the last moment it was settled, as will be seen from the public apology, on the terms that Mr. Jacobs was to pay to Major Boyd an agreed sum by way of damages and indemnify him against all the costs and expenses of his solicitors. It was stipulated that the apology should appear in four named newspapers, and also in LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

At a meeting of the Valuation Committee held on December 10, a report of the proceedings was presented by Major Boyd. The chairman (Councillor J. L. Schultz) moved the following resolution:—

"That the committee learn with satisfaction that the valuation officer and his staff have been completely vindicated in connection with the statement made by ex-Councillor Jacobs at a meeting of this committee on July 10, 1934, and that the valuation officer's report be placed in the Town Clerk's minutes file for reference."

The chairman added: "I think the public will realise that Major Boyd has come out with flying colours, and that his character is completely vindicated."

In fighting this case, Major Boyd has not been inspired merely by personal motives. No local government officer can object to criticism which is fair or in the public interest, but there are limits which pass beyond the bound of honest criticism. When those limits are reached the time for action has arrived.

We desire to express to Major Boyd our hearty congratulations on his success. He has rendered a signal service to his colleagues in local government generally.

The prospectus and syllabus of the examinations held in London and the provinces on November 16 and 17 last, issued by the Corporation of Certified Secretaries, Limited (by Guarantee), 20 Fishergate Hill, Preston, contains information of the objects of the corporation, and the regulations connected with admission of candidates to membership.

LEGAL NOTES

By the LEGAL SECRETARY

THE passing of the Betting and Lotteries Act, 1934, has not legalised lotteries in general. Section 21 of the Act expressly states that subject to the provisions of Part II of the Act, all lotteries are unlawful. Special dispensation is given in Part II of the Act for two classes of lotteries, namely lotteries incidental to certain entertainments and private lotteries. The former are dealt with in Section 23 and are confined to lotteries incidental to bazaars, sales of work, fêtes and other entertainments of a similar character; whether limited to one day or extending over two or more days. Such lotteries are deemed not to be unlawful provided the following conditions relating to their promotion and conduct are observed:—

(1) The whole of the proceeds of the entertainment (including the proceeds of the lottery) after deducting certain expenses, must be devoted to purposes other than private gain. The expenses which may be deducted are the expenses of the entertainment (but not the expenses incurred in connection with the lottery), the expenses of printing tickets in the lottery, and such sum (if any) not exceeding £10 as the promoters think fit to appropriate for the purpose of purchasing prizes.

(2) None of the prizes shall be money prizes.

(3) Tickets or chances in the lottery must not be sold or issued, nor must the result be declared, except on the premises on which the entertainment takes place and during the progress of the entertainment; and

(4) The facilities afforded for participation in lotteries shall not be the only or the only substantial inducement to persons to attend the entertainment.

If any of these conditions is broken an offence is committed and every person concerned in the promotion or conduct of the lottery will be guilty of the offence unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge.

Private lotteries are dealt with in Section 24. A private lottery is defined as a lottery in Great Britain which is promoted for, and in which the sale of tickets or chances by the promoters is confined to:—

(i) Members of one society established and conducted for purposes not connected with gaming, wagering or lotteries; or

(ii) Persons all of whom work on the same premises; or

(iii) Persons all of whom reside on the same premises.

It must be promoted by persons all of whom come within one of three categories mentioned above and, in the case of a lottery promoted for members of a society, each of the promoters must be authorised in writing by the governing body of the society to promote the lottery.

Although a society is defined to include "a club, institution, organisation or other association of persons by whatever name called," yet the scope of that definition is drastically cut down by a further provision that "each local or affiliated branch or section of a society shall be regarded as a separate and distinct society."

The following provisions must be observed in its promotion and conduct so that a private lottery may be taken out of the class of unlawful lotteries, viz.:—

(i) The whole of the proceeds, after deducting the cost of printing and stationery, must be devoted to the provision of prizes for participants. In the case of lotteries promoted for members of a society, the proceeds may be devoted either to the provision of prizes or to the purposes of the society or both.

(ii) No written notice or advertisement of the lottery may be exhibited, published or distributed, other than:—

(a) A notice exhibited on the premises of the society or on the premises where the persons for whom the lottery is promoted, work or reside; and

(b) Such announcement or advertisement as is contained on the tickets.

(iii) The price of every ticket or chance must be the same and must be stated on the ticket.

(iv) Every ticket must bear on its face the names and addresses of each of the promoters and a statement of the persons to whom the sale of tickets or chances by the promoters is restricted and a further statement that no prize won will be paid or delivered by the promoters to anyone other than the person to whom the winning ticket or chance was sold by them. No prize may be paid or delivered except in accordance with that statement.

(v) No ticket or chance may be issued or allotted by the promoters except by way of sale and upon receipt of the full price thereof and no money or valuable thing received by the promoters shall in any circumstances be returned.

(vi) No tickets may be sent through the post.

If any person breaks any of the conditions, whether he is a promoter or not, he is guilty of an offence under the Act, but it is provided that it shall be a defence for a person charged only by reason of his being a promoter of the lottery to prove that the offence was committed without his knowledge.

U.S.A. JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The commission on the Administration of Justice in New York State, the report of which has been issued by the J. B. Lyon Company, Albany, New York, was created by the Legislature during 1931, "to investigate and collect facts relating to the present administration of justice in the state," and to present recommendations for its improvement. It submitted a preliminary report of its work to the Legislature on March 1, 1932, and this volume is its final report. Three elements have entered into this consideration of the judicial branch of the government. The first concerns itself with the common law and statutory law with which the courts deal. The second concerns the judicial machinery through which the courts function, and the third the judicial personnel, the judges and those who are connected with the operation of the courts.

The report occupies some 60 pages of the volume and the supporting studies some 955 pages! Not content with this, the commission has decided to submit two separate reports. One will contain a draft revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and this will constitute the first attempt at a scientific revision of the code since its adoption in 1881. The second will be a special report on injunctions in labour disputes to Governor Lehman, who referred that subject to the commission. This is, of course, primarily a book for the critical lawyer, for although there may be no affinity between English and American law and law methods, there must be some suggestions in the report which will provide at least the germs of some ideas which might be applied to our own judicial system.—D. J. P.

The book "From Mons to 1933," reviewed in our columns (see page 698 of the December, 1934, issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE) was published by Messrs. Simpkin Marshall, Ltd., at 5s.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

POINTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETINGS: GROWTH OF THE MEMBERSHIP: THE FORTHCOMING CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS: THE ASSOCIATION'S INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE

NORTH WESTERN AND NORTH WALES

THE annual meeting of the N.W. and North Wales District Committee was held on December 1, in the Town Hall, Manchester, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Deputy Town Clerk of Southport. The president of the association, Dr. A. Wotherspoon; the senior vice-president, Mr. G. W. Coster; and the general secretary, Mr. L. Hill, attended. Among others present were Mr. W. H. Whinnerah, deputy chairman; Mr. J. D. Cannell, hon. treasurer; Mr. F. J. Willett, hon. secretary and chairman of the National Executive Council; and Mr. Haden Corser, divisional secretary. The National Executive Council was represented by Mr. T. Freeman, Mr. J. E. Gee, Mr. C. A. W. Roberts, Mr. J. W. Singleton, and Mr. C. C. Sweet.

Ancillaries' New Records

The business of the meeting was mainly formal. All the retiring officers were re-elected. Sympathetic reference was made to the death of Mr. Alfred Hughes, who was one of the original members of the association, and who, for the last three years, had been the hon. secretary of the Regional Committee of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund. Mr. C. A. W. Roberts referred to the Centenary of Local Government, and Mr. G. W. Coster outlined the progress which has been made on Merseyside in connection with celebrating this event. The general secretary spoke of the progress which was being made in the district in membership and the support given to N.A.L.G.O.'s ancillaries, every one of which had again broken records this year. One of the most important phases of the association's activities, he said, was the bringing of the searchlight of public opinion on to the local government services. He hoped that in 1935 there would be more said in favour of local government administration than had ever been said before. Mr. Hill paid tribute to the large number of honorary workers in N.A.L.G.O.

At the close of the meeting Mr. Coster presented the Alderman Turnbull Shield, which is awarded to the branch in the district having the highest average contribution per head to the B. and O. Fund, to the Ince-in-Makerfield Branch, with average contributions of 17/5d. Lancaster, with contributions of 16/6d. per head, came second.

Councillor J. Butterfield, of Liverpool, who, before his retirement, was a prominent member of the association, proposed the toast of "The National Association of Local Government Officers" at the annual dinner. He said that N.A.L.G.O. was listened to in the councils of the nation. Local councils had gradually come to recognise the importance of an organisation such as this. It was an organisation that preached "Service."

At Home—and Abroad

In response to the toast, Dr. A. Wotherspoon, president of the association, bore testimony to the good work which was being done in the district and said that the district's representatives on the National Executive Council were not silent gentlemen. N.A.L.G.O. was getting higher in the estimation of this country, and beyond its borders. During the past year, N.A.L.G.O. had become better known to the nation, and from the fact that in July this year, Mr. Hill addressed the representatives of twenty-six nations, they would realise that they were able to tell something at least, not only to our European, but also to our American friends. It said something for our international prestige that these nations resolved to send their delegates over here to learn something from the

general secretary of the system of local government in this country.

Councillor Butterfield had mentioned the need to stop the "back-door" method of entry into the service. It was another of N.A.L.G.O.'s bits of hard work that the Hadow Report had been practically entirely got up in the form of N.A.L.G.O.'s evidence, which he thought was a very great tribute by the government to their work.

Mr. L. Hill also spoke in reply to the toast of the association. He stated that it was most refreshing to hear Mr. Butterfield speak of the Local Government Service, as there were very few people elected to represent and govern the towns of this country who were prepared to look local government straight in the face, just as there were many people who professed to be Christians, but who would wilt under the sight of naked Christianity.

Mr. W. H. Whinnerah proposed the toast of "Our Guests," including Councillor J. Butterfield and Mr. C. A. Ruscoe (who, up to a year ago, was hon. treasurer of the District Committee, having held that position for a period of thirteen years); Mr. J. Darricotte, the founder of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund, now retired; Mr. F. B. Lunt, an ex-member of the National Executive Council; and Mr. G. Rhodes, at one time hon. secretary of the Regional Committee of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund. Mr. Darricotte responded.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

Mr. Thomas Evan (Rhondda) presided over the annual meeting of the South Wales and Monmouthshire District Committee at the City Hall, Cardiff, on December 8. A vote of condolence was passed to the relatives of the late Mr. Noah Tromans (Llantrisant), who had been a very active member of the committee for some years. The annual report recorded that membership in the district now exceeded 4,000. Out of 116 local authorities in the district, only 11 were still making the deductions in salaries agreed in 1931. During the year, the Borough of Port Talbot, the Urban District Councils of Rhondda and Tredegar, and the Rural District Councils of Magor and St. Mellons had adopted superannuation schemes. In South Wales approximately 4,000 officers and 5,000 workmen were included in superannuation schemes.

Mr. J. Weslake Hill presented the report of the Regional Benevolent and Orphan Fund Committee, which showed that during 1934 grants made to widows and orphans and members in distressed circumstances in South Wales totalled £1,053.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Mr. A. J. Gould (Glamorgan County Council); vice-chairman, Mr. J. W. Clayton (Pontypriid); honorary secretary, Mr. Rhys Williams (Gellygaer) honorary treasurer, Mr. F. A. Stephenson (Barry).

Reports were given by Mr. H. Morris and Mr. G. Llewellyn on the proceedings of the National Executive Council; by representatives of the branches; and by the divisional secretary (Mr. J. E. N. Davis). It was urged that the association should resist the apparent tendency to treat local government officers less favourably than other public servants. It was mentioned that South Wales Branches had forwarded amounts totalling £258 to the Gresford Colliery Disaster Relief Fund.

Following the meeting, the Lord Mayor (Alderman John Donovan) entertained the members to tea. The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor J. Griffiths) presided.

SOUTH WESTERN

The eighth annual meeting of the South Western District Committee was held at the Council House, Bristol, on December 8. On the previous evening the Biennial Reunion of the Southern and South Western District Committees took place, and took the form of a dance at the Cadena Café, a function which was admirably arranged by the Bristol Branch. Some 80 delegates were the guests of the Branch. Mr. S. Stratford, hon. secretary of the Bristol Branch, is to be congratulated on the way in which the arrangements were carried out.

The Lord Mayor of Bristol welcomed the delegates to the city prior to the meetings on Saturday, and afterwards entertained them to luncheon. His Lordship was supported by the Sheriff of Bristol (Mr. T. Hosegood Davies). The Lord Mayor paid a tribute to the work of N.A.L.G.O., especially in regard to their educational policy.

Mr. McAuliffe to Retire from N.E.C.

Some 44 delegates attended the business meeting of the South Western District Committee. The following officers were re-elected: chairman, Mr. C. J. Newman, town clerk of Exeter; vice-chairman, Mr. P. H. Cole, Plymouth; hon. secretary, Mr. A. W. Saunders, Somerset; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. G. Billing, Plymouth; hon. auditor, Mr. E. W. Deacon, borough treasurer, Cheltenham; hon. motoring correspondent, Mr. E. J. Pratt, Somerset.

Mr. M. O. McAuliffe, Director of Education, Bristol, informed the committee that he did not intend to seek re-election on the N.E.C. at the end of the current year. It was with the greatest reluctance that he had come to this decision, but it was impossible for him to devote sufficient time to the work of an N.E.C. member in view of the heavy duties of his new office. The chairman, on behalf of the committee, expressed sincere regret at Mr. McAuliffe's decision and extended to him the best wishes of the committee in the difficult task which lay before him. Mr. McAuliffe assured the committee that his interest in N.A.L.G.O. would not be lessened in the slightest degree, and thanked members for the confidence placed in him during the past sixteen years.

The annual report showed that the membership in the district had increased by approximately 350 during the year.

Setting Up Whitley Councils

The hon. secretary submitted a summary of replies received from branches in regard to the formation of Whitley Councils. In view of the nature of the replies, it was decided to inform the N.E.C. that the committee adhered to their previous decision that the initial steps in regard to setting up Whitley Councils in the area should be made through the Associations of Employing Authorities. One council for the whole area is recommended.

A grant was made to the East Cornwall Branch for propaganda.

With regard to B. and O. matters, it was decided to communicate with all branches in the area whose percentage of membership of the B. and O. Fund was low, asking them to endeavour to persuade all their members to contribute at least the minimum contribution to the Fund.

The D.O.S. reported that several of the smaller authorities had been approached in the district concerning the possible adoption of the Superannuation Act, and he undertook to supply the committee with a list of those authorities who had not yet adopted this Act.

**SALARIES AND SERVICE
CONDITIONS**

NOTES BY THE ORGANISING
SECRETARY

Salary Deductions

Out of 742 deductions originally notified only seventy-six continue. Of these forty-one have been modified since the original decision. Reports submitted to district committees by divisional secretaries are very encouraging, e.g., in the East Midland District only one deduction operates. This has been halved and will cease at the end of March next.

Superannuation

Schemes have been adopted recently by the following authorities:—

- 1. New Mills U.D.C. Appointed day, January 1, 1935.
- 2. Stroud U.D.C. Appointed day, October 1, 1934. (Forty posts covering officers and workers in Cotswold District Joint Superannuation Scheme.)
- 3. Wanstead and Woodford U.D.C. Appointed day, April 1, 1935. (Admission to Essex County Scheme.)
- 4. Axbridge R.D.C.
- 5. Maldon R.D.C.

Accompanied by County Councillor Mark Hewitson of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, the D.S. had an interview with a committee of the Durham Rural District Council on the question of the adoption of the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922.

The representatives of the workmen and staff respectively spoke at length, and we have pleasure in reporting that the committee unanimously decided to recommend the council to adopt the Act in respect of the whole of its employees.

Salaries

A report of the Newcastle (Staffordshire) Council and Staff Joint Committee dealing with salaries, was approved by the council in July, 1933, but the decision was reversed in October, 1933. Subsequently a sub-committee of the council was appointed to consider the question, and its report, which was less favourable than the original report, was approved in June, 1934. Negotiations were continued, and the organising secretary was received by the General Purposes Committee in July. At a meeting of the council on December 5, 1934, the matter was again considered, and a recommendation of the General Purposes Committee was carried that the original report of the Council and Staff Joint Committee be adopted. One critic complained that instead of "vox populi" "the predominant note might be said to be 'vox N.A.L.G.O.'" The final decision will give great satisfaction to the officers.

Compensation

As the result of an appeal a Liverpool member has had his compensation under the Local Government Act, 1929, increased by £42 3s. 4d. a year.

Whitleyism

The Northumberland County Officers at their annual meeting considered the question of "Whitleyism," and after considerable discussion it was agreed to refer the matter back to the Executive Committee with the suggestion that a referendum of the whole of the members be taken.

**L.C.C. Public Assistance Department.
Area VIII (Camberwell and Southwark)**

All officers formerly in the service of the late Camberwell or Southwark Guardians, or any officers who have been associated with Area VIII, are cordially invited to attend the area staff dinner and dance which is to be held at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, W.C.1, on Friday, March 1, 1935, at 6.45 p.m. for 7 p.m. Tickets (7s. 6d. each) and further particulars will be forwarded upon application to the Honorary Social Secretary, Public Assistance Local Sub-Office, 51 Ufford Street, Blackfriars Road, S.E.1.

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NOTES FOR READERS



By JONAS PRAPS

Shreds and Patches

IF there is one individual I envy it is Walter Starkie. I envy him his courage, opportunity and fortitude in becoming a true wandering minstrel. Some months ago I strongly recommended my readers to peruse his "Raggle-Taggle," and he has taken his fiddle and his courage in his hands once more, playing his way through Northern Spain. In "Spanish Raggle-Taggle" (Murray, 10s. 6d.) Mr. Starkie, who, by the way, is a Doctor of Literature and a Professor of Spanish in Dublin University, tells of his experiences during his tramp. There are adventures, but not of the lurid type. The chief interest in the book is the delightful descriptive power of the writer; he has an eye for beauty in every form.

There is a perfect word-picture of everyone he meets from persons in high places to the tramp upon the high road. In a few sentences he makes you feel the presence of the Gypsy Queen, Augustina, "Her skin was olive-coloured with hardly the trace of a wrinkle, though she was a grandmother, and her hair, which was black with blue reflections, was plaited in the Gypsy way, and so soft and lustrous that it resembled the raven's plumage. Of her eyes I am afraid to speak, for they were Gypsy eyes and there was a touch of sinister witchcraft in them." Mr. Starkie is the embodiment of Sullivan's

"A wandering minstrel I—
A thing of shreds and patches,
Of ballads, songs and snatches
And dreamy lullaby."

and should not be missed.
The more one reads the story of men closely associated with the modern press—the recent

biography of C. P. Scott for example—the more one realises the enormous part they play in the political world of to-day. "The Life of Robert Donald," by H. A. Taylor (Stanley Paul, 18s.) is a further instance of this fact. The book rightly emphasises what even a slight acquaintance with Sir Robert Donald could not fail to detect—his sincerity and charm of manner. He was a well-known figure in the press-world, not only as editor of the *Daily Chronicle* but in larger spheres. To municipal officers he will be best known for his association with the "Municipal Journal" and the "Municipal Year Book," and many will be glad of the opportunity to read the story of his rise from humble beginnings to a power in the world of journalism. Sir Robert possessed one trait in keeping with Nalگو principles in that, although editing a paper with a political bias, his staff appointments were on merit, not creed or politics. There are degrees of genius, and fortune, perhaps, plays some part in determining the degree, but there is no doubt of the genius for journalism displayed by the subject of this excellent biography.

Out of a medley of characters Mr. Howard Spring in "Shabby Tiger" (Collins, 7s. 6d.) produces an excellently planned story of Manchester to-day. The people in his book range from Sir George Faunt, a member of the City Council, to Holy Mo, a book-maker's broken-down clerk with a heart of gold. The chief characters are Nick Faunt, an artist with talent but no name; Anna, a girl with an illegitimate child and no job. Holy Mo has adopted Anna's boy with little or no recompense and desiring none. The picture is completed with Rachel (Mo's sister), who has ambitions, and the book-

maker, Piggy White, whose cognomen fits him admirably. There is little or no plot but an excellently conceived story. Anna is a fine character, though the prudes might not approve of her.

Civil War

Clennell Wilkinson has added another success to his previous biographies in "Prince Rupert, the Cavalier" (Harrap, 8s. 6d.). Whilst we read of him first at Prague it is of Rupert in the Civil War in England and of "Rupert's Horse" that we read principally. Reticent, blunt, and with little liking for court life, "Soldiery was the form of self-expression which Rupert happened to have cultivated." In Mr. Wilkinson's book there is a clear picture of him as soldier and cavalier; a born leader of horsemen. Rupert was fortunate to end his days in peacefulness at his Windsor home.

H. V. Morton has transferred his wanderings to Palestine. In "In the Steps of the Master" (Rich & Cowan, 7s. 6d.) there are the same graphic descriptions of scenery and men, and the same intimacy between writer and subject as in his former books. The topic is more stereotyped and does not lend itself to informality; nevertheless it makes good reading.

One of the most interesting recent travel books is L. M. Nesbitt's "Desert and Forest" (Cape 12s. 6d.) which recounts his experiences in 1928 in exploring the tract of land between the Red Sea and the eastern spurs of the Abyssinian plateau, hitherto unexplored. The illustrations are good.

KALEIDOSCOPE

Herr Stefan Zweig is a very versatile writer. In his masterly study of "Marie Antoinette," in his "Mental Healers" dealing with Mesmer, Mrs. Eddy and Freud, and in "Three Masters" dealing with Balzac, Dickens and Dostoevski, he has already proved himself an adept in the difficult art of biography.

He now appears in a new role as a writer of fiction. "Kaleidoscope" (Cassell, 7s. 6d.) is a collection of thirteen stories and novelettes written during a period of twenty years. Herr Zweig has vivid powers of characterisation and keen psychological insight. His stories cover varied scenes and are set in many different parts of Europe, but they all succeed in presenting to the reader "the amazing kaleidoscope of life."

"Conciseness," the author writes in the foreword, "has always seemed to me to be the most essential problem in art. To fit his destiny to a man so nicely as to leave no vacuum, to enclose him as irradiantly as amber does the fly, and yet the while preserve every detail of his being has, of all tasks, ever been the dearest to me." Herr Zweig has certainly realised his aim in the stories contained in "Kaleidoscope."

It only remains to mention the excellence of the translation by Eden and Cedar Paul.

C. K. W.

A GREAT PUBLIC SERVANT

"Sir Robert Morant," by Bernard Allan, M.A., LL.D. (Macmillan), 12s. 6d.

THE official, as a rule, receives scant recognition while he is alive and is quickly forgotten when he is dead. To the general public, the name of Sir Robert Morant is practically unknown, and yet he probably had as great an influence on the social life of this country as many men whose names are household words. He was without doubt one of the ablest civil servants who have ever served this country. It was Morant's powerful brain and inexhaustible energy that enabled Arthur Balfour to shape and carry through Parliament the great Education Act of 1902. After the Act was passed, Morant, as head of the Board of Education, devoted many strenuous years to carrying out the transformations which that Act effected in the system of education. Lloyd George, though he had been a bitter opponent of the new educational policy, recognised Morant's exceptional powers, and after he had forced through the House his great scheme of National Health Insurance, he called upon Morant to carry it into effect. Morant succeeded in the task, and then used the Insurance organisation as the basis for the creation of the Ministry of Health. It is thus to Morant, more than anyone else, that England

owes the present organisation of both its education and health services.

Dr. Allan's biography is well conceived and admirably written. Parts 1 and 2 of the book relate to Morant's education at Winchester and Oxford, to his early ambitions to go into the Church, and to the seven years which he spent in Siam. Part 3, which is the longest section in the book, deals with Morant's work in connection with education from 1895 to 1911, and Part 4 with his work in connection with Public Health from 1911 to 1920. The book is appropriately illustrated by reprints of two of F. C. Gould's cartoons and by two photographs.

Not only has Dr. Allan succeeded in giving a very clear portrait of Morant, but he has produced by his biography a most illuminating commentary on education and public health during the last forty years.

C. K. W.

Mr. Peter S. Whyte, chief public assistance officer of Selkirkshire, has taken up duty in Dundee under the Unemployment Assistance Board. Mr. Whyte was a prominent official in the Borders, and his departure was recognised by presentations at a social function attended by the staff and members of Selkirk County Council.

SOCIAL JUDGMENT

Local government officers owe much to the late Professor Graham Wallas for his dynamic and original thought on the subject of social organisation. He died in August, 1932, and he had been working up to the last few weeks of his life at a book on social judgment. This he intended to be in two parts, but the material for the first part only was left in literary form, and this has been edited by his daughter and published as a posthumous work, "Social Judgment" (George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 40 Museum Street, W.C.1, 5s. net).

Briefly, the scope of the book is a discussion of the nature, history, and possible improvement of the judgment-process, and this discussion centres very largely round the "rational" and "emotional" modes of thought in that process. In developing his theories, he wrote eight chapters dealing with psychological factors, judgment and knowledge, the art of judgment, the wisdom of Palestine, the new philosophy, economic laws, the idol of the laboratory, and religion and judgment. Each chapter is a self-contained masterpiece in essay writing, constructive and provocative thought.

D. J. P.

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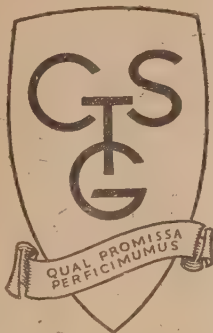
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HEADQUARTERS AND BRANCHES

The following circulars have been issued to branch officers from headquarters:—

NOVEMBER 20, 1934

Circular No. 84/1934.

(To local correspondents of the Provident Society.)

Reminding local correspondents to forward all contributions by December 15, and giving information relating to members in arrears with their subscriptions.

Circular No. 85/1934.

(To local correspondents of the Provident Society.)

Containing information about the membership campaign and competition, 1934.

DECEMBER 11, 1934

Circular No. 86/AS/1934.

(To local correspondents of the Approved Society.)

(a) Enclosing contribution cards for the 1/35 period, together with usual lists and expenses forms.

(b) Regarding return to headquarters of cards not delivered to the members concerned.

(c) Regarding the forwarding of contribution cards and the claiming of expenses.

(d) Regarding "Full Period" members.

(e) Regarding the submission of claims for sickness benefit.

(f) Regarding the granting of additional benefits.

STANDING CONFERENCE OF JOINT COUNCILS

Associations of Local Authorities
and Whitleyism

At the meeting of the Standing Conference of Joint Councils (comprising representatives from both sides of the Provincial Whitley Councils operating in London, Lancashire and Cheshire, Yorkshire (West Riding) and North Wales, held at the Middlesex Guildhall on November 16, 1934, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That the Standing Conference appoint deputations representative of the authorities' and staff sides to wait upon the appropriate committees of each of the associations of local authorities, to urge them to support the establishment of a system of provincial councils throughout the country, and to use their influence with the local authorities who are members of the respective associations to secure the active support of the authorities in the several areas.

"That the officers of the Conference be authorised to arrange for deputations to wait upon the committees of the respective associations when arrangements for the meetings have been made."

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan. 17, 18, 19.—N.A.L.G.O. Examinations.

Jan. 31.—First quarterly return of alterations in Register of Membership.

CHELTHAM CONFERENCE DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar. 1.—Return (Form Cr) of names and addresses of representatives to Conference to be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m.

Mar. 1.—Nominations for election of N.E.C. to be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m. (Form EL1.)

Mar. 1.—Nominations for Honorary Officers to be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m.

Mar. 1.—Motions for Conference to be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m.

Mar. 15.—Nominees for Election of N.E.C. may withdraw up to 5 p.m. on this date.

April 1.—Journal will contain Conference Agenda.

April 1.—Report of the N.E.C. to be issued to representatives with Agenda.

April 15.—Amendments to motions in Conference Agenda to be received at Headquarters by 5 p.m.

April 15.—Voting Papers for N.E.C. to be in hands of Branch Secretaries.

April 23.—Voting Papers for N.E.C. to be in hands of members.

May 1.—Voting Papers to be in hands of Secretary of District Committee.

May 1.—Journal will contain amendments to motions in Conference Agenda.

May 2.—Counting of votes for N.E.C. commences in each district.

May 25.—Conference Agenda (containing motions and amendments thereto) and list of representatives to be forwarded to representatives.

May 25.—Branches desiring to divide voting strength at Conference to notify Headquarters of allocation.

June 8.—Whit Saturday. First day of Conference Proceedings.

June 10.—Whit Monday (Bank Holiday). Second day of Conference Proceedings.

RE-UNION

CROYDE BAY AND CAYTON
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CANARY ISLANDS CRUISE

LONDON - Saturday, 16th February, 1935, at Harrods Restaurant, Knightsbridge, S.W. Commencing 7 p.m.

MANCHESTER - Saturday, 23rd March, 1935, Manchester Limited Restaurant, Exchange Buildings. Commencing 7 p.m.

Tickets 2/6

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24 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1

SALARY SCALES AND SERVICE CONDITIONS

The scales and conditions which were published in the March, 1934, issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE have since been amended by the National Executive Council as follows:—

(a) By the deletion of the words "administrative, technical, professional, and clerical staffs" wherever they occur in the scales and conditions;

(b) By the deletion of Note 2 attaching to the scale of salaries (this involves the re-numbering of the subsequent notes attached to the scale);

(c) The following addition should be made in paragraph 5—Recruitment—of the National minimum standard of conditions of service after the word "advertisement" in line 3: "and notification to the Juvenile Employment Departments."

An up-to-date copy of the scales and conditions embodying the alterations referred to above can be consulted on application to the Branch Secretary or may be obtained from Headquarters.

REFERENCES FROM THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1934

Action Taken by N.E.C.

The following is a statement of the action taken in connection with the references from the Annual Conference, 1934:—

1. (a) That this conference calls upon His Majesty's Government to put into operation the definite recommendation contained in the Hadow Report on local government that superannuation should be made compulsory throughout the Local Government Service; (b) That the Prime Minister be asked forthwith to receive a deputation from the National Executive Council on the subject.

(c) That failing satisfaction by November 30, 1934, the National Executive Council be directed to formulate and carry out a programme of propaganda to demonstrate that compulsory superannuation is urgently necessary.

A statement on the position in regard to compulsory superannuation appears on another page.

Venue of Conference

2. That it be an instruction to the National Executive Council to consider and report upon the advisability of dispensing with all speeches in support of invitations and that where the National Executive Council are not prepared to make a definite recommendation with regard to the venue of the conference, such venue be decided by ballot.

Draft amendments of the rules to give effect to this decision are in course of preparation.

3. That the section of paragraph 30 of the annual report relating to the Ulster Public Officers' Association be referred back to the National Executive Council for further consideration.

No action is being taken herein pending the decision of the Ulster Public Officers' Association.

4. That the statement of policy in connection with recommendation 11 of the Hadow Committee be referred back to the National Executive Council for further consideration.

This will be borne in mind when the whole subject of the Hadow Report is again under consideration.

5. That in view of the popularity of the existing N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Centres, the National Executive Council be asked to consider the establishment of a holiday centre on the South Coast.

Details are being obtained of sites suitable for the establishment of another holiday centre.

Cost of Living Index

6. That this conference being of the opinion that the official (Ministry of Labour) cost of living index is out of date and unrelated to the budgets of local government officers, urges the National Executive Council to make representations to the proper authority with a view to the preparation of an index which is up to date and which will be a more reliable reflection of the actual cost of living than is the present basis.

A deputation has appeared before the Ministry of Labour representatives and a report will be submitted to the next meeting of the Service Conditions and Organization Committee.

VACANCY ON THE N.E.C.

Mr. G. Lawson, formerly Chief Clerk, Sanitary Department, Edinburgh Corporation, has resigned his seat on the National Executive Council on receiving an appointment under the Unemployment Assistance Board. This creates a casual vacancy in the representation of Scotland (Area No. 3) on the National Executive Council. The branches concerned will receive formal notification with regard to nominations, etc., in due course.

Local Government Service

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W.C.2.

Telephone: Holborn 2288-2289.

Contributions on topical Local Government problems are invited and will receive careful consideration, but the Editor cannot accept responsibility for the safety of manuscripts submitted for his consideration.

Authoritative local news on matters having more than a purely local interest is welcomed.

Legal and other inquiries relating to Local Government will be answered promptly.

All communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

1935

VERY few people can pass from one year to another without looking back and reflecting a moment or two upon the happenings of the past twelve months. When we do pause we may find our thoughts absorbed by domestic events, or we may try to memorise the political changes both at home and abroad. Whatever is the line which our thoughts take, sooner or later we say to ourselves "I wonder what the New Year will bring?" Some consult the fortune-teller; some turn their money over; some wish a secret desire with each ninth pie; vast numbers of ordinary, everyday folk believe in "luck" and put their trust in it. In other words, they leave it to the other fellow!

A Momentous Year

We are entering upon a year which can be made momentous in the history of local government if we all do our bit. It is over two years since a small group of enthusiasts met to think out schemes for making the people of this country realise the true value of our local government work, and it was then the term "Centenary of Local Government" was coined. For two years the work of the "Public Relations" Committee of N.A.L.G.O. has been directed to focus attention upon this event. From the small beginnings when the phrase was "dropped" into articles and "news-papers"; from the quiet reference to 1935 in speeches, the idea has a firm hold on the imagination of the people. It has been done so well that quite a number of important people are believing it is their own idea.

What a great year we have in front of us, and what a great opportunity we shall lose if we do not take the fullest possible advantage of the preliminary work which has been so skilfully done by the Public Relations Committee. The gradually

accumulating momentum of interest is encouraging beyond all the rough guesses of past meetings. Success seems to have been achieved all along the line. Even the cruise to the northern capitals has caught the imagination of everyone, both here and abroad.

The continental authorities have adopted the idea whole-heartedly and have proved themselves to be really enthusiastic in their desire to show our members what they have done for the improvement of the social conditions of their inhabitants. At the end of December, only six months after the first official announcement of this proposal was made to the members, more than half of the accommodation in the liner has been booked. But the cruise is only one idea of many.

Celebrating the Centenary

Considerable thought was given to the best method of celebrating this important event in this country, and it was eventually decided to leave it to the appropriate authorities in each town to make what arrangements were considered to be most applicable to the particular locality. The chief reason for this was, of course, that these celebrations would be far more productive of interest and enthusiasm if they were spontaneous than if they were stereotyped. Another reason was the absence of knowledge of local conditions and history. Each town has its own story to tell.

It was, therefore, suggested that the branches should co-operate with the local authorities in the arrangement of programmes for their respective localities, and some fourteen suggestions were made for their consideration.

Briefly, these suggestions ranged through the holding of special exhibitions, pictorial displays, visits of inspection to the council's various undertakings, lectures by prominent local people, the preparation and circulation of leaflets explaining the works of the council and of a booklet, suitably illustrated, giving a local history, the arrangement of functions which would give opportunity for public pronouncements to be made on the value of local government, and that full use should be made of Mayor's Day, November 9, 1935, and other local dates of importance, such as the anniversary of the grant of the charter of incorporation.

School-children, too

In addition to these, it was suggested to the branches that they might be able to arrange for the local education authority to offer prizes to the school-children for the best essay in, say, two or three age groups, the essay to be based upon a lesson in local government to be given in the schools. An opportunity for the townspeople to show a practical interest in the proceedings was provided by a suggestion that a voluntary civic fund should be opened to enable the citizens to commemorate the centenary in some fitting way—such as the endow-

ment of beds at the local hospitals and by the inclusion of a local government tableau in the annual pageants.

It was also stressed in this circular letter how important it was to secure the co-operation of the local press, and it was suggested that the best method of ensuring this was to call a press conference when arrangements had been definitely decided. A letter was also sent to the newly-elected mayor of every town, pointing out to him that his year of office coincided with the centenary year of the foundation of local government and suggesting to him that he should take some action to ensure that this fact would not be overlooked in his town. In addition to these steps, letters, articles and news-paragraphs have been sent out during the past year to the newspapers and, as a result, there has been a decided upward trend in editorial opinion of local government and, in fact, many papers are insistent that the significance of this year's centenary shall not be allowed to pass unnoticed.

Local Authorities' Arrangements

Many local authorities have already set the machinery in motion to secure the arrangement of suitable and adequate programmes of events in their own towns, and the majority of them have called their local officers into consultation for this purpose. One or two have already so far progressed that an announcement is possible of their proposals. At Shore-ditch, for instance, it is hoped that the annual health and baby week, which is usually held during October, will this year be extended and will be a "municipal and health week"; whilst the Merseyside authorities of Liverpool, Birkenhead, Wallasey and Bootle have jointly decided upon a most ambitious programme. At the banquet on February 23, the guest of honour will be the Earl of Derby.

At South Shields, the first Sunday of 1935 will witness a special local government service in the largest Nonconformist church in the town, and the mayor and members of the corporation will be present. The council is also considering a programme of other events. Among other methods which have yet to be decided in the West Riding, arrangements are being made for a special service to be held in York Minster at which the whole of the corporations in the Riding and, possibly, in Yorkshire will be present. It is probable that the Archbishop of York will attend and preach at this service.

From this we can see that it is possible during 1935 to ensure that public opinion will be focused as never before on our local government system, how it works and what it gives. If by this the rate-payers can be made to realise that what is provided for them by the municipalities is not only good value for money, but that local government itself is a fundamental need of a stable, progressive social organisation, then the time and labour involved will not have been in vain.

THE ORGANISATION DEPARTMENT

A YEAR OF INTENSIVE ACTIVITY IN ALL PHASES OF OFFICERS' SERVICE CONDITIONS :
SURVEY OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MULTIFARIOUS FUNCTIONS

THE Organisation Department is responsible for the whole of the trade union work of the Association apart from legal advice and assistance. When Headquarters administration was re-organised in 1931 the functions concerning service conditions, propaganda, branches, district committees, conferences and committee work and typing department of the Association were included in this department, and it was also made the central point of contact with the divisional organisers and divisional officers.

Salaries Scale

The past year has been one of great activity in every direction, although this may not be apparent to the general body of members, because most of the work does not lend itself to sensational advertising stunts. After many months of close consideration and concentration a draft scale of salaries was approved by the National Executive Council for use in negotiations with local authorities, and by the time this article appears it is hoped that approval will have been given to draft scales of salaries and minimum conditions of service for institutional and nursing staffs. It took four years to arrive at scales and conditions which would meet all interests and all points of view, but it has been done and it will now form the basis for future negotiations on these subjects.

Apart from these major issues, questions are occurring daily relating to salaries and all aspects of conditions of service, not only from the point of view of the whole staff of a particular authority, but more often than not an individual case problem requiring satisfactory solution. To endeavour to detail these would be a herculean task which would not repay the labour involved, because each case is different from all others and no one solution can be applied generally.

The department is responsible for taking action to ensure that individual local authorities will adopt, or at least, consider the question of adopting a superannuation scheme for the staff. This involves consultation with branch officers and with divisional secretaries, the preparation of cases to be submitted to the individual local authorities and very often a deputation to the council in order to explain in detail what superannuation means. Some idea of the volume of work entailed may be gauged from the fact that during 1934 no less than 140 deputations went before either the councils of local authorities or the appropriate committees for the particular subjects involved.

New Branches

The whole of the propaganda involved in the formation of new branches and increasing membership and maintaining the interest of existing branches is conducted through the department. This involves the preparation and circulation of new literature, correspondence with responsible officials of local authorities, convening and addressing meetings, and generally doing the spade work for the newly-formed branches. After that it is necessary to maintain close contact with the members of the branches, visiting them periodically throughout the year and attending their meetings in order to explain the whole of the work of the Association and maintain their enthusiasm at a high level. 756 meetings of this character have already been held at the time of writing this article.

Records must be maintained at Headquarters, and as there are 544 branches with over 2,000 branch secretaries and correspondents of one sort or another, of whom some 25 per cent. change annually, it can be easily realised that the maintenance of an up-to-date index is a matter of some importance. Other records

which are maintained relate to the growth of the membership of the branch and of the various activities of the Association. This index is invaluable in determining the degree of interest taken by the various branches in the work of N.A.L.G.O. A further index is in course of preparation relating to the local authorities and from this, it is hoped to be able to formulate some general scheme for improving the salaries and service conditions of local government officers.

Not least among the duties and responsibilities of the department under a general heading of service conditions, is the question of Whitleyism. This has entailed intensive thought and action, particularly during the past two years, and it is gratifying to learn that the efforts made are at last beginning to show results. If progress can be maintained at its present level there is every hope that before the end of twelve months additional Provincial Councils will be in existence.

Conference and Committee Work

Of conference and committee work very little need be said, because the whole of this work is mainly routine, although it requires intensive application to detail. Some idea of the magnitude of this work may be gauged from the fact that 900 delegates attended the conference, and council, committee and sub-committee meetings averaged just over three per week during the past year. A large proportion of the annual report of the Association is prepared in this department, and there is a general oversight over the whole production. After publication of the report a summary is prepared for circulation to every member of the Association.

Most of the duties which cannot be specifically allocated to any other department of Headquarters organisation are carried out in the Organisation Department, and these include such matters as a general oversight of the literary matter included in the journal, galley and page proof reading and preparation of copy on matters of general interest. Branch

and district committee rules are examined prior to confirmation by the N.E.C., and there is the general co-ordination work involved in such matters as the issue of circulars and questionnaires to branches and local authorities.

Other special duties are carried out as they arise. Some examples of these will serve to illustrate the point. The preparation of statistics and data for reports and memoranda for all purposes when the Association's case has to be presented; a very recent instance of this is the case which has been submitted to the Ministry of Labour on the Cost of Living Index question.

A recent addition to the duties carried out in the department is the campaign for the enhancement of local government prestige. This involved breaking entirely new ground, but it has been so successful that there is now greater interest than ever before being taken in local government. The carrying out of most of the details relating to the celebration of the Centenary year has been undertaken by this department.

Honorary Workers

These illustrations will merely serve to show the general outline of the functions of the Organisation Department and it will be realised that they could not be successfully carried out were it not for the close co-operation and willing assistance rendered by the many honorary workers in the branches and district committees. In the last resort, the success or failure of the Association depends entirely upon what the individual member and the individual branch will do, and it is a pleasure to report that they lighten the burden of applying what is popularly known as the "bread and butter policy" of N.A.L.G.O. If they will continue in the future as they have done in the past, then the Organisation Department will be able to go ahead much more quickly and smoothly towards the goal of adequate salaries and service conditions of the local government service.

SCOTTISH NOTES

THE annual report of the Scottish District Committee shows that there has been continued progress. The membership has increased by 677, and two new branches have been established. Good progress has also been made with the establishment of superannuation schemes, in educational affairs, in benevolent activities, and in getting the economy cuts restored.

Only three of our branches in Scotland have still to hold their annual meetings. To narrate the business transacted at these meetings, largely of a formal character, would be tedious. Suffice it to say that they were all of a pleasant and encouraging character, good reports being submitted by the branch secretaries. Renfrewshire (Paisley and District) Branch was again this year the first to hold its annual meeting. The report submitted by Mr. Galbraith, the secretary, showed that a grading scheme had been adopted and that a scheme of superannuation was now approved.

The largest meeting was, of course, that held in Glasgow. About 700 were present, and Dr. A. S. M. Macgregor, Medical Officer of Health, president of the branch, who presided, gave an interesting address dealing with the changes which had taken place and were likely to take place in local government administration. The report submitted showed that much satisfactory work had been done during the year on behalf of the members, and that there was a net increase in the membership of roughly 200.

At the Edinburgh meeting a satisfactory report was also submitted. There was a net increase of twenty in the membership. Mr. George Lawson, hon. secretary of the branch, who has received a good appointment under the Unemployment Assistance Board intimated his resignation. The branch regrets the loss of the services of Mr. Lawson, who, during his five years of office, has done excellent work.

One of the best annual meetings was that held at Dundee, over which the Town Clerk, Mr. Blyth Martin, presided. The meeting was very well attended, and the report showed an increase of seventy in membership. During the evening, the Town Clerk presented to Mr. A. M. Imrie, on his retirement from the chairmanship of the branch, a beautiful eight-day clock. In doing so, he paid a high tribute to Mr. Imrie's excellent work as chairman of the branch and as a member of our National Executive Council. Mr. W. Percy Fox, the organising secretary, who was present, gave a stimulating address which was very cordially appreciated.

Greenock Town Council have now adopted a superannuation scheme. Originally the scheme proposed was of the limited type for workmen, but, the workmen having objected, it was agreed to provide a full scheme for all the employees. Paisley Corporation superannuation scheme is meantime held up pending certain investigations.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

REPORTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETINGS REVEAL REMARKABLE GROWTH OF INTEREST IN ALL THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

NO "CUSHY" JOBS

THE Mayor of Cheltenham welcomed to the town a company of a hundred local government officers representing the Gloucestershire branches of the National Association of Local Government Officers. Brief reference to the meeting was made in last month's issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE. Dr. A. Wotherpoon, president of N.A.L.G.O., addressing the meeting, said that one of the most important things that N.A.L.G.O. was trying to show the public was that they had not got such "cushy" jobs after all. The whole idea of the association, he remarked, was to raise their status to some such level as that of the civil service. They wanted thoroughly good service conditions to work under with satisfactory salaries and pensions; and in return they wanted to give value for money.

BULWARK AGAINST DICTATORSHIP

Mr. L. Hill, general secretary of N.A.L.G.O., said: "I am sufficiently in touch with other countries to be able to say without hesitation that the time may come when this country will wake up to the fact that in our present local government system they have the greatest bulwark against some of those experimental forms of government that are disturbing such huge sections of the public across the water. Once the country realises that, then I think local government in this country will come into its own. N.A.L.G.O. is playing its part in making local government worth having."

Membership of the East Sussex County Officers Branch is now 240 as compared with 224 a year ago. The annual report indicates that much useful work has been accomplished during the year.

Mr. H. S. C. Marsh, accountant, Whitstable U.D.C., is the new president of the Canterbury and District Branch, which reports a 23 per cent. increase in membership. A new branch office has been instituted, the social secretaryship. Mr. H. A. Thomas, Weights and Measures Inspector, Canterbury, has been elected.

At the annual meeting of Sunderland Branch the Town Clerk, Mr. G. S. McIntire, B.A., LL.B., was elected president; Mr. J. Robinson, town clerk's department, honorary secretary; and Mr. R. Doxford, borough treasurer's department, honorary treasurer. A presentation was made to Mr. R. E. Heron, who has retired from the honorary secretaryship after more than twelve years' service. The presentation took the form of a silver salver and silver tea service. Mrs. Heron received a gold wristlet watch. Mr. Heron is chairman of the North East District Committee.

North-West Durham Branch membership has increased from 20 to 35. Mr. Swinden, D.S., and Mr. Grainger, of the N.E.C., addressed the annual meeting. A resolution was adopted supporting the proposed Provincial Whitley Council.

Newark (Notts.) Branch has completed a very successful year. Membership now stands at 38. A number of successful social functions have been organised during the year. The Branch



MR. STANLEY PEARCE,
President of the Lytham St. Annes Branch.

publishes "The Nalگو Bulletin" as a local inset to the Local Government Service. It is hoped to organise a function in the near future to be addressed by a member of the N.E.C.

The attendance at the annual general meeting of Lytham St. Annes Branch was indicative of the increased interest in N.A.L.G.O. affairs. The return of the Borough Treasurer, Mr. Stanley Pearce, to the presidency for the tenth successive year was expected, and reflected the Branch's gratitude for his devoted work in the interests of all members. He has been primarily responsible from time to time for the success of the social side which, in itself, has contributed to the attainment of a membership only three short of the 100 per cent. Mr. Pearce is indefatigable in the work of encouraging support of the B. and O. Fund. In this he is ably supported by Mr. Porter, who is responsible for

the annual draw. Mr. C. Wads was again appointed secretary, this being his thirteenth successive year. As a result of a social effort over £21 has been forwarded to the Gresford Colliery Disaster Fund.

At Eastleigh Mr. A. M. Cousins succeeds Mr. F. G. Lee as president. The secretary's annual report was an encouraging record of progress. An insignia of office has been presented by members of the branch to the chairman of the council to be worn in turn by succeeding chairmen. Mr. Marsh was cordially thanked for his services as secretary. The treasurer's balance sheet showed a satisfactory financial position. Mr. F. W. Stock, representative to the Southern District Committee, appealed to members to give more support to the B. and O. Fund, and it was unanimously agreed that every member become a contributor to this fund. Branch membership is 100 per cent. representation of the staff.

The Don Valley Area Branch of the West Riding County Officers' Association Lecture and Debating Society have arranged an interesting syllabus for the last Friday in each month during the session. Mr. A. J. Dempster (Education Department) is chairman; and Mr. J. S. Reeves (Treasurer's Department), hon. secretary.

GRESFORD DISASTER FUND

Finsbury Borough Officers' Guild organised a concert at Sadler's Wells in aid of the Gresford Pit Disaster Fund. There was an audience of over 1,000, including the Mayor and the Mayoress, Sir George M. Gillett, M.P., and Lady Gillett; the Town Clerk (Mr. D. E. Richards) and Mrs. Richards; and the Italian Consul-General. The concert was under the direction of Mr. E. Q. Bilham (treasurer), Messrs. G. H. Knight and W. L. Langham (joint hon. secretaries) and Dr. H. Low, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., etc. (on behalf of the Guild). The Mayor sent to Mr. W. L. Langham, hon. secretary of the Guild, a letter of grateful thanks, commending the organising committee on its efforts, as a result of which he would be able to hand over to the Lord Mayor's Fund more than £100.

Esher Branch, at its annual meeting, elected the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. A. Senior) as president, and the Clerk of the Council (Mr. Frederick Edwards) as vice-president. A donation of £3 3s. was made to the local fund in connection with the appeal of the High Sheriff of Surrey for distressed areas.

The eighth annual meeting of the Port of London Authority Upper Division Staff Branch was presided over by Mr. T. F. Drayton, who was supported by the officers of the Branch, Mr. P. H. Harrold, Hon. Solicitor for England

(Continued on next page)

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NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

(Continued from preceding page)

and chairman of the Law and Parliamentary Committee of the Association; and the Organising Secretary, Mr. W. P. Fox. Mr. Harrold gave an address, dealing very largely with the legal work of the Association, and commented favourably on the satisfactory nature of the annual report of the Executive Committee, which he described as one of the best arranged reports that had come under his notice. The report recorded the results of the negotiations with the Authority which became effective on April 1, 1934, viz., (a) decrease of 46 in the Establishment of Third Class Clerks and corresponding increases in the Establishment of the three next higher classes; (b) an increase of £12 10s. per annum in the maximum of present Third Class Clerks after two years at the former maximum of this grade. Mr. H. G. Martin is the new chairman of the Branch for the ensuing year.

NEARING THE 100 PER CENT.

The South Shields Branch still continues its extraordinary progress with a membership of 441. This figure represents practically 100 per cent. membership. The magnificent services which have been rendered indicate the keen interest taken by the branch officers and Executive Committee in every member individually.

The first annual general meeting of the Chislehurst and Sidcup Branch was held on November 29. Mr. F. Thomas, Divisional Organising Secretary, gave an address on the advantages to be derived from membership of the Association. Twenty new members were admitted, bringing the total up to 47. The following officials for the year 1934-5 were elected: president, Mr. E. T. Chater; vice-president, Mr. E. Lawes; hon. secretary, Mr. R. N. Sisson; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. S. Evans; hon. auditors, Messrs. L. R. Sanderson and H. Stevenson; social secretary, Mr. H. S. Heath; sports secretary, Mr. E. Wilbourn; education correspondent, Mr. E. J. Lang.

At the annual meeting of the Bingley Branch, Mr. E. O. Robinson, A.R.I.B.A., Architect to the Bingley U.D.C., was elected president for the ensuing year, and Mr. E. W. Raby, A.S.A.A., A.I.M.T.A., Treasurer to the U.D.C. was elected vice-president. Mr. J. Wilson and Mr. M. Rothery were re-elected as honorary secretary and honorary treasurer respectively. The secretary reported that 92 per cent. of the members of the staff of the Bingley Council were members of N.A.L.G.O., and that 73 per cent. of these were members of the B. and O. Fund.

There was an exceptionally good attendance at the twenty-fifth annual general meeting of the Burton-upon-Trent Branch. The annual report of the honorary secretary (Mr. A. G. Earp) dealt comprehensively with local activities during the past year and detailed also N.A.L.G.O.'s activities in the interests of the members of the local government service. Mr. Reading (president), Mr. Earp (honorary secretary), and Mr. Matkin (honorary treasurer) were cordially thanked for their work.

Mr. G. H. Banwell, Town Clerk, was elected president of the Lincoln Branch at the annual meeting.

Mr. Eric W. Scorer, Clerk of the County Council, presided over the annual general meeting of the Lindsey Branch. Membership has increased to 237. A sub-branch has been formed at Spilsby. It is hoped to form further sub-branches. Mr. C. E. Gamble, retiring chairman, was thanked for his services. Mr. A. Pogson was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

Newport (Mon.) annual dinner was held on November 28, and the annual meeting on December 12. Mr. Norman T. J. Moses, Borough Treasurer, presided over both very successful functions. Mr. Moses said that during the year membership had increased by 50 to 364, and there were only nineteen officers who were not members. Mr. G. Llewellyn gave an address on the work of the National Executive Council. Dr. Ivy T. J. Ruxton was appointed president for 1935, and Mr. Moses was heartily

thanked for his invaluable services as president in 1934.

At the annual general meeting of Northampton Town and County Branch, Mr. Bertram Cheney, County Accountant, was elected president, and Mr. H. C. Perrin, Secretary for Education to the County Borough, vice-president. Mr. J. W. Sharpe was re-elected honorary secretary, and it was mentioned that this would be Mr. Sharpe's twenty-fourth year as honorary secretary of a branch. The divisional secretary addressed the members on the work of the association.

At Pontypridd annual general meeting, Mr. J. E. Thomas resigned office as honorary secretary, which he had held for six years. It was decided to make a presentation to Mr. Thomas. Mr. I. Osmond was appointed honorary secretary.

Since Sutton Coldfield Branch was formed in June, 1933, there has been a steady increase in membership which, in the Town Clerk's and Borough Surveyor's Departments, is 100 per cent. Mr. R. A. Reay-Nadin, Town Clerk, said he hoped all departments would soon show 100 per cent. membership. Mr. Arthur Corbett, first honorary secretary, intimated his desire to relinquish the office, and was warmly thanked for his valuable service in the formation and consolidation of the Branch, and Mr. S. A. Stray was elected honorary secretary. Mr. S. J. Nicklin was re-elected honorary treasurer. Mr. P. Cannon, Borough Treasurer, presided over the meeting.

The divisional secretary was present at a special meeting of Workshop Branch, arranged to consider the question of seeking exception from the Unemployment Insurance Acts. Mr. J. Rawson, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, presided.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS

In the absence through illness of the president (Mr. V. J. Moore), Mr. C. S. Fothergill presided at the annual meeting of the Walsall Branch. The report of the Executive Committee revealed a successful year's work and the maintenance of a good percentage membership. Discussion took place on the subject of widows' pensions, and it was generally agreed that some such scheme is desirable.

Mr. V. J. Moore (Director of Education) was re-elected president, and Mr. C. S. Fothergill (Public Assistance Officer) and Mr. C. W. Cookson (Assistant Borough Treasurer) were elected vice-presidents.

Mr. F. G. Mills presided at Ipswich annual meeting. The secretary (Miss E. Nunn) reported that the membership had now increased to over 130. Several matters of vital interest were discussed, the most important of which were questions of salaries and superannuation. It was decided that general meetings be held more frequently in future. Dr. A. W. Gaye was elected president, and Mr. Mills was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services as president during the past year.

The Smethwick Branch, at the annual general meeting, unanimously elected Mr. W. C. Shelton, Public Assistance Officer, as president for the ensuing year. The retiring president, Mr. J. H. Wright, paid warm tribute to the keen support the Public Assistance staff had given the local branch during the last four years and said that in honouring Mr. Shelton they were electing a president who was well fitted in every way to hold what they regarded as an important office.

At Wallasey annual meeting the president, Captain W. H. Fry, R.N.R. (Ferries Manager), was in the chair, supported by Mr. William Wilson (Chief Librarian), Mr. H. H. Lincoln (Motor-bus Manager), Mr. T. Freeman (National Executive Council), Mr. F. J. O'Dowd (Assistant Solicitor), Mr. W. E. Cumberland (chairman of the branch), and others. The annual report, submitted by Mr. T. D. Suthren, honorary secretary, showed very satisfactory progress all round, including B. and O. Fund

activities, which had enabled the branch to contribute the sum of £82 10s. to the fund. Mr. T. Freeman dealt with the Hadow Report and urged upon local government officers the importance of equipping themselves for occupying key positions. He stressed the importance of working for the diploma in public administration. The new president is Mr. H. H. Lincoln. The annual dinner was attended by, among others, the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. H. J. Hall), Mr. Emrys Evans, M.A., L.L.B. (Town Clerk), Mrs. Emrys Evans, Mr. A. Lindsay Clegg, M.A. (Deputy Town Clerk), and Mrs. Lindsay Clegg.

The annual meeting of the West Hartlepool Branch was presided over by the Town Clerk. Regret was expressed that the Council had not yet seen its way to adopt the Superannuation Act, although it was believed that the matter would come up for further consideration in January. Branch membership now stands at 200. The formation of a dramatic society was discussed, and a representative committee was appointed.

At Hastings annual meeting—presided over by the president, Mr. J. Norman Gray—the report showed a membership of 201, an increase of 24 on the previous year. A silver cup was presented by Councillor Honnor for table tennis, the winner being Mr. P. A. Ward. The "Councillor Dobell" Cup for billiards was won by Mr. B. W. Steward, and Mr. H. R. Savage was the successful competitor in the snooker competition. Tribute was paid by the chairman to Mr. H. J. Brown, the retiring honorary secretary, and Mr. F. J. Hills, honorary treasurer, who were cordially thanked for their services. In the election of officers, Mr. W. N. King was appointed president and Mr. A. K. Vint honorary secretary.

An amendment to the rules providing for a woman representative on the General Committee was approved.

It was resolved to express to Mr. G. R. Butterworth great appreciation of his services for N.A.L.G.O. during the past twenty-four years. The meeting passed a resolution of appreciation to the retiring president (Mr. J. Norman Gray) for his services during the past year.

The general secretary, Mr. Hill, attended the Tynemouth annual meeting and dealt with the aims and activities of N.A.L.G.O. A resolution was passed unanimously in favour of the formation of a provincial joint council for local authorities' administrative, technical and clerical services. Mr. F. G. Egner (Deputy Town Clerk) was elected president for the ensuing year.

Despite the very large increase in membership recorded by the Dewsbury Branch last year, the hon. secretary, in his annual report, indicated a further increase at the annual meeting. The town council has set up a special sub-committee to consider and report upon the fixing of minimum and maximum salaries for all chief and deputy chief officers; and the formation of a scheme of grading of posts and conditions of service in relation to the professional, technical, administrative and clerical staffs of the corporation. Mr. A. G. Bolton gave an address on the work of the association.

"LIVE" MEMBERS ONLY

The annual meeting of the Doncaster Branch was informed that the Executive Committee had deleted from the register the names of those members whose subscriptions were in arrears and who were not making any effort to bring their payments up to date, in order that the register should show only "live" and paid up members. The hon. secretary referred to the outstanding social feature of the season, which was the huge success of the Mansion House Dance. Physical culture classes for both men and women have made rapid progress and are now a well-established feature.

Mr. W. N. Campbell (Transport Manager) was elected president of the Stockton Branch at the annual meeting. The divisional secretary described the progress made in the association's efforts to secure compulsory superannuation for local government officers. The hon.

secretary reported a slight increase in membership over the previous year.

An excellent report was presented by the hon. secretary at the annual meeting of the York Branch, the most striking feature of which was a reference to the adoption by the corporation of the Superannuation Act, 1922. Efforts are being made to induce the corporation to increase the minimum allowances provided by the Act. The finance committee have agreed to receive representatives of the branch in respect of any difficulties which may arise from the adoption of the Act.

A THANK-OFFERING

The Mayor of Halifax (Mrs. Councillor M. Lightowler, J.P.), and the chairman of the Sowerby U.D.C. (Councillor C. W. Maude, J.P.), attended the annual dinner of the Halifax Branch. The president of the association (Dr. A. Witherspoon) was also present. Mr. G. H. Fry, Borough Treasurer, presided both at the dinner and at the annual meeting which followed. Reference was made in the annual report to the question of voluntary deductions from salaries, which ceased on December 31, 1933. As a thank-offering, many members of the branch devoted an amount equal to one week's deduction to the B. and O. Fund. As a result a total of £16 18s. 3d. was collected. Dr. Witherspoon gave an excellent address on the work of the association.

Over 100 members of the Bucks County Branch of the association attended the annual meeting, held at Aylesbury. Col. Guy R. Crouch, president, was in the chair. Mr. W. E. Lloyd, Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer of N.A.L.G.O. gave an address on the activities of the association. Mr. J. Chaloner (chairman of the Executive Committee) submitted the annual report, which showed an increase of sixteen members during the year, making a total of 274.

At the annual meeting of the Huddersfield Branch a presentation of an oak bookcase was made to Mr. J. Greenwood to mark his retirement from the service on superannuation. Mr. Greenwood had been president of the branch for a number of years. A large increase of contributions to the B. and O. Fund was announced. Mr. H. Neaverson, Transport and Cleansing Superintendent, was elected president of the branch for the ensuing year.

WATER LEGISLATION

The widespread water shortage of last summer has made the adequacy of water supplies an important question for many local authorities throughout the country. It would seem, therefore, that the 8th edition of "The Law Relating to Water," by the late F. T. Villiers Bayly and H. I. Willis (Butterworth, £3 3s.) could not have made a more opportune appearance. Unfortunately, the learned editor of the last edition, Mr. F. T. Villiers Bayly, died before the present volume was completed, and the work was finished by his co-editor.

This is a most valuable and comprehensive work. In addition to a general introduction which deals in summary fashion with the law on this subject, the General Water Acts are set out fully with annotations. Another portion deals solely with the Metropolitan, while other branches of this subject which are dealt with are waste and misuse of water, prevention of pollution of rivers, powers of local authorities in England and Wales with reference to water supply and the promotion of and opposition to parliamentary bills by local authorities.

The numerous statutes dealing with water which have appeared since the previous edition of 1925 have been included together with the very recent Acts, the Reservoirs (Safety Provisions) Act, 1930, the Rural Water Supplies Act, 1934, the Supply of Water in Bulk Act, 1934, and the Water Supplies (Exceptional Shortage Orders) Act, 1934. The alterations effected by the Local Government Act, 1933, have also been dealt with.

This is a work which cannot be praised too highly, and one which no clerk to any water undertakers should be without. E. M. P.

SOCIAL EVENTS

MR. H. R. B. Wood, speaking at the annual dinner of the Crewe and District Branch, remarked: "Never before has local government been on such a high plane of integrity. Our system of elected representatives is the best that we can have, but we must have behind it officials with the highest principles—officials who want the highest efficiency. N.A.L.G.O. stands for that." Mr. L. Hill, general secretary, N.A.L.G.O., referring to superannuation, said the adoption of the scheme was one of the wisest things Crewe Town Council had done.

An enjoyable social was held by Hastings Branch on November 30. The first performance of the Nalgo Entertainers consisted of a one act play, "The Old Geyser." Although some of the performers were new to the stage the remarkable ease with which they assumed their parts indicated the great care that had been taken at the rehearsals. The prizes for the various competitions were presented by Mrs. C. F. Hayward.

AFTER 22 YEARS

Mr. G. Maclim (South Shields) presided at the 12th annual dinner of the North Eastern Municipal Officers' League at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. Maclim, presenting the cup to the League winners, voiced general congratulations on Gateshead's success. Through sheer tenacity, he said, they had achieved their ambition in winning the League for the first time in twenty-two years. Mr. R. H. Storer accepted the cup on behalf of the Gateshead Club.

At the annual dinner of the Eastbourne Branch Mr. W. L. Allen, Deputy Town Clerk and president of the Branch, presided, and among the guests were the Mayor (Councillor Miss Thornton, J.P.), the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Thornton, J.P.), Councillor Rush (chairman of the Electricity Committee); Mr. W. H. Smith (Chief Constable); and Mr. L. Hill, General Secretary. There was a company of more than seventy.

The Southgate Branch held a successful whist drive in aid of the B. and O. Fund, when the Mayor, Alderman W. H. Pullinger, vice-president of the Metropolitan District Committee, and the Mayoress were present. The Mayoress presented the prizes, one of which she gave, and Mrs. George, wife of the retiring president of the Branch, organised a raffle. It is expected that nearly £6 will be handed over to the Fund as a result of this event.

There was a good turnout for the annual dinner of the Isle of Wight branch of the Association, held in the Metropolitan Hall, Newport. The President of the branch (Mr. T. Ross Pratt), who presided, was accompanied by Mrs. Ross Pratt, and the other guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Newport (Alderman and Mrs. Harvey), the Mayor and Mayoress of Ryde (Major and Mrs. Dennis), Mr. G. F. Bloomfield (Chairman of the Cowes Council) and Mrs. Bloomfield, Mr. J. Dufton (County Clerk) and Mrs. Dufton, Mr. T. J. Fawdry (Town Clerk of Ryde), Mr. A. A. Whitfield (Clerk to the R.D.C.), Mr. L. Hill (General Secretary, N.A.L.G.O.), and members of the local committee, including Mr. G. H. Matthews (Hon. Secretary). The toast of the Isle of Wight local authorities was proposed by Mr. Dufton, while the Mayor of Newport proposed the toast of N.A.L.G.O.

Mr. Hill, general secretary, attended the annual meeting and dinner of the North Riding County Branch. The president, Mr. H. F. Kelland, presided. A net increase of sixty-four members during the year was recorded. County Alderman Whitwell, J.P., chairman of the North Riding Finance Committee, proposed the toast of "N.A.L.G.O.," which was responded to by Mr. Hill. The divisional secretary, Mr. J. B. Swinden, proposed "The North Riding County Officers' Association," which was responded to by Mr. H. F. Kelland, president of the branch. The Clerk of the County Council, Mr. H. G. Thornley, O.B.E.,

referred to the growing complexity of local government. County Alderman T. Place, Mr. J. B. M. Peters, Mr. V. Grainger, hon. secretary of the North Eastern District Committee, Mr. R. Sawtell, County Surveyor, and Miss Roberts also spoke.

The annual dinner and dance of Bridgend Branch was held on December 12. Mr. W. Eustace Bevan (president of the branch) presided over a large company. In responding to the toast of "N.A.L.G.O.," the divisional secretary (Mr. J. E. N. Davis) referred to the difficulties caused by certain criticism, and congratulated the president on the result of the slander action in June; in the opinion of them all, in fighting that action Mr. Bevan was defending the service as a whole.

The fourth annual dinner and dance of the Cannock and District Branch was held on November 30.

In replying to the toast of "N.A.L.G.O.," proposed by Councillor J. Blackmore, J.P. (Chairman of the Brownhills U.D.C.), Mr. G. A. Stone (of the National Executive Council) spoke of the growth of the association and its activities. Other speakers included Councillor A. Wedge (Chairman of the Cannock U.D.C.), Councillor M. Wright of Cannock, Mr. N. Waine (Clerk to the Brownhills U.D.C.), and Mr. Wm. C. Speedy (Clerk to the Cannock U.D.C. and chairman of the branch).

A large company attended the annual dinner and dance of the Cardiff Branch on December 7. The president, Mr. R. Stephenson (Public Assistance Officer) presided and was supported, among others, by the Deputy Lady Mayoress (Mrs. James Griffiths).

The toast of "The Lord Mayor and Corporation" was proposed by Mr. J. Apted (Superintendent of the Cottage Homes) and responded to by Alderman G. Fred Evans; and "The National Association of Local Government Officers" was proposed by Mr. R. Stephenson and responded to by Mr. J. E. N. Davis (divisional secretary).

SUPERANNUATION FOR ALL

The annual general meeting of Gwent Branch was held on December 1, and was followed by the annual dinner. Mr. Alfred Richards (Bedwelty) presided. The toast "The Houses of Parliament" was proposed by Mr. C. Davies-Jones. Mr. Charles Edwards, M.P. (Chief Labour Whip in the House of Commons), who responded, said he was strongly in favour of superannuation. "My opinion is that there should be superannuation for everybody. It would be the best thing to regulate unemployment, which is a problem that will remain with us for many years. It would cut across the problem at the right end if we had a proper superannuation scheme."

In responding to the toast of "Local Authorities," given by Mr. Trevor C. Griffiths (Clerk to the Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council), Mr. E. Silk, M.A. (chairman of the Nantyglo and Blaina Council), said the presence of so many representatives of local authorities was a demonstration of goodwill towards officials. Of the local authorities of Monmouthshire, Mr. Silk said: "For many years they have valiantly stood by their officials; but I fear there is a tendency, because of the economic pressure prevailing, to twist their ideals and conceptions in the matter of their duty to their servants. I implore them not to do that."

The Lord Mayor (Alderman E. Grimsley) and Lady Mayoress attended the annual dinner and dance of the Leicester City Branch on December 6. The guests were welcomed by Mr. H. C. Mansfield (Public Assistance Officer, president of the branch), who mentioned that there were 730 members of the City Branch, an increase of 50 over last year.

The local press, referring to this year's dinner at Malvern, says: "I once described the N.A.L.G.O. dinner as the premier social (Continued on next page)"

SOCIAL EVENTS

(Continued from preceding page)

function in the local calendar. While many of my readers no doubt disputed that description, I do not think anyone will disagree with me when I say that it holds the record for the length of its programme. That of Friday in last week lasted for over eight and a half hours, and what is more those who remained to the finish—and the majority did—showed no signs of 'a night out.' They were, to quote the programme, 'gay as the lark and jocund as the bee,' and reached home before the arrival of the milkman. Not one of the guests was late at business on Saturday. But N.A.L.G.O. is capable of great achievements! A presentation was made to Mr. Angus Fraser, a member of the Surveyor's Department, on retirement under the super-annuation scheme.

The twenty-second annual dinner of the Nottingham Branch was held on November 30. Mr. W. J. Board (Town Clerk) presided over a large company, which included the Recorder (Mr. J. F. Eales, K.C., M.P.), the Lord Mayor (Councillor R. E. Ashworth), Alderman Sir Albert Ball, Alderman H. Bowles, Dr. Wotherspoon (past-president of N.A.L.G.O.), Mr. C. G. Brown (past-president), Mr. T. Wallis Gordon (City Engineer), Mr. J. E. Richards (Deputy Town Clerk), Mr. J. Boydell (City Treasurer), Mr. G. Dixon (Gas Manager), Mr. F. W. Davies (Water Engineer), Captain A. Popkiss (Chief Constable), Mr. J. L. Gunn (Transport Manager), Mr. J. Hirst (Clerk to the River Trent Catchment Board), Mr. H. C. Mansfield (Public Assistance Officer, Leicester), and Mr. J. Chaston and Mr. A. B. Day (members of the National Executive Council of N.A.L.G.O.).

NOTTINGHAM'S DEBT TO THE OFFICERS

The Lord Mayor said that next year they would reach the centenary of modern local government. In the past ninety-nine years there had been wonderful developments in their great city, and they had to thank the officers and the men who had worked for the municipality. It was through them they had reached the position Nottingham now occupied. In submitting the toast "N.A.L.G.O.," the Lord Mayor welcomed Dr. Wotherspoon, the president, and paid a warm tribute to N.A.L.G.O. He said the Nottingham Branch, formed twenty-nine years ago, had a membership of 870, which was about 90 per cent. of the official staff. It would be to their advantage to get 100 per cent. and he hoped they would quickly attain this.

In responding, Dr. Wotherspoon said he felt that in N.A.L.G.O. they had cause to be proud of what they were doing.

He hoped in the centenary year something would be done to show the public that their aim was to raise the whole standing of the service; it was much more than salaries and service conditions, important as those things were.

Alderman Sir Albert Ball said the Council and the officers were partners in a wonderful organisation.

The annual report shows that the branch membership increased from 777 to 866 during 1934.

Bournemouth Branch held their annual dinner at the Pavilion on December 13. The president (Mr. W. E. Morgan) presided, and the guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Bournemouth (Alderman and Mrs. J. R. Edgcombe), Mr. H. Ashling (Town Clerk) and Mrs. Ashling, Mr. D. Llewellyn Griffiths, O.B.E. (Town Clerk of Aldershot and member of the National Executive Council of the Association), Lady Godfrey, Mr. Richard Austin, and Mr. H. Senior (Southampton). The Mayor expressed his good wishes to the association in its important work. Mr. Llewellyn Griffiths dealt with the various activities of the association.

At Anglesey Branch dinner the toast of "N.A.L.G.O." was proposed by Mr. O. Caerwyn Roberts, who presided. The honorary

secretary (Mr. A. Owen) gave a short address on the work of the association and informed the company of the steady increase in the membership of the local branch, the figures for the past two years being: 1933, 14; 1934, 23; and 1935 (estimated) 30. Addresses were given by Mr. Walter O. Jones, B.A., M.B.E., and Dr. J. R. Prytherch, J.P.

MOVEMENT OF MEMBERS

Mr. C. A. North, Tunbridge Wells, to Clerk in Surveyor's Department, Ryde (I.O.W.).
Mr. W. E. B. Buckingham, Hampshire, to Accounts Clerk, Hornchurch R.D.C.

Mr. T. H. Husband, Poole, to First Accountancy Assistant, Fareham U.D.C.

Mr. W. R. Short, Hants, to L.C.C.

Mr. Ruffell, Rochester, to Education Department, Isle of Ely.

Miss Pinfold, Rochester, to Education Department, Kent C.C.

Mr. G. Hawes, East Sussex, to Accounts Clerk, Education Department, Isle of Ely.

Mr. A. R. Herbert, Woking, to Assistant Solicitor, Smethwick.

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Mr. K. Brown, Dorset, to Clerk's Department, East Sussex.

Mr. B. C. Cox, Dorset, to Senior Accountancy Assistant, Winchester.

Mr. E. C. Hibbs, Dorset, to Borough Treasurer's Department, Weymouth.

Mr. F. C. Pritchard, Exeter, to Crayford U.D.C.

Mr. A. J. Egerton, Dorking U.D.C., to Junior Engineering Assistant, Reading C.B.

Mr. J. B. Gore, Wigan, to Chief Clerk, Education Department, Winchester.

Mr. F. P. Clayton, Settle, to Engineer's Assistant, Prestwich.

Mr. D. W. Menzies, Wallasey, to Town Planning Assistant, Halifax.

Mr. G. A. Murch, Wallasey, to Audit Assistant, Great Yarmouth.

Mr. R. Williams, Wolverhampton, to Borough Engineer, Preston.

Mr. H. Smith, Oldham, to Sales Manager, Joint Electricity Board, Stalybridge.

Mr. J. G. Barr, Southport, to Assistant Solicitor, Brighton.

Mr. D. Chisholm, Newton-in-M'f'd., to Clerk to the Council, Standish-w-Langtree.

Mr. C. E. Knight, Surrey C.C., to First Grade Clerk, Willesden Borough.

Miss S. P. Jacks, Ipswich, to Library Assistant, Hornsey.

Mr. D. M. Mactavish, Willesden Borough, to Engineer and Surveyor, Crayford.

Mr. G. H. Gardener, West Sussex C.C., to Inspector, Local Taxation Officer, Surrey C.C.

Miss G. L. Chilcott, Caernarvon, to Clerk, Merton and Morden.

Mr. G. Rames, Hammersmith, to Accountancy Assistant, West Bromwich.

Mr. R. T. Parrott, Luton, to Architectural Assistant, Widnes.

Mr. C. L. Berry, Todmorden, to Director of Education, Wakefield.

Mr. W. B. Cowie, Wakefield, to Carshalton.

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BRIDGE FORUM

By NEVILLE HOBSON

Penalties

A WELL-KNOWN bridge player recently incurred a loss of over 1,500 points as the result of the enforcement of a penalty under the following circumstances.

He was the declarer, Hearts being trumps, and had only to score a trick in Diamonds for game and rubber. With Q. J. x in his own hand, he led the small one up to 10, 8, x in dummy, but got hold of the 8 instead of the 10. He immediately put it back, but was requested to play it. The last player won with the 9 and then made the A. K, with the result that the declarer was one down.

The law applicable is 21 (which applies to auction as well as contract), and prescribes that a card is deemed to have been played by the declarer when he touches a card in the dummy's hand (unless when touching the card he says "I arrange" or words which show he has no intention of playing it).

Instead of winning the rubber and gaining approximately 850 points, the other side won the rubber in the next 2 games, and the player in question—in a recent article in the "Bridge Magazine"—raises the question as to whether such a penalty is not unduly severe.

He is sporting enough to say he has no quarrel with his opponents, and that those who break laws must expect to be penalised, but he submits that the declarer should have the option of substituting the touched card by another at the sacrifice of (say) a hundred points to the opponents.

Lead Out of Turn

Under Law 46, if an opponent of the declarer leads out of turn, the declarer may (a) call a lead from a suit named by him from the offending side when first it is an opponent's turn to lead, and treat the card led out of turn as an exposed card in the meantime; (b) treat the card led as an exposed card and—if the card is still exposed when next it is the turn of the offender's partner to lead—forbid that lead to be made in the suit of the exposed card; or (c) treat the card as if properly led in turn.

This rule should certainly be operated where, e.g., the player on the right of the declarer leads a Heart when it is the player on his left to open at a bid of No-Trumps. The declarer may have a good all-round hand in the other 3 suits but is taking a chance as regards the Heart suit. If his partner cannot help him in such suit, he at least hopes that the strength lies on his right and that it will not be led, but if once the player in question indicates a heart lead, the correct leader cannot forget the significance of his showing that suit, and it is only fair that the declarer should demand the proper leader to play what suits him.

Dummy Suggesting Mode of Play

The provisions of laws 50 and 51 are often disregarded at both auction and contract.

Law 50 prescribes that, if dummy touches a card or otherwise suggests a particular form of play, the opponent on dummy's left may require the declarer to play or not to play that particular card.

Law 51 prohibits dummy from volunteering to tell the declarer which hand has the lead, or to warn him from leading from the wrong hand, in which case the opponent on his left may choose the hand from which the lead is to be made.

Dummy should realise that the declarer has already many advantages over each of his opponents, and a perusal of Law 19 (which sets out the limited rights of dummy) is recommended to bridge players in general.

Revokes

The revoke penalties (which are dealt with in Law 55) call for definite study, as—whatever degree of friendship may exist between players—it should always be agreed in advance that the appropriate penalty should be demanded whenever a revoke is established.

FUTURE OF THE COMPULSORY SUPERANNUATION BILL

EFFECT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO TAKE PRIVATE MEMBERS' TIME

SINCE the December issue of LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE went to press, important developments have taken place in connection with the question of compulsory superannuation.

It will be recalled that a Bill to amend the Local Government and Other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922, with the object of bringing into operation a compulsory superannuation scheme for all local government officers was presented in the House of Commons by Sir Henry Jackson, M.P., supported by a number of other Members of Parliament, on May 9, 1934. From the then state of parliamentary business there was, however, little or no chance of the Bill, as a Private Member's Bill, reaching the Statute Book during the session 1933-34. Nevertheless, the presentation of the Bill did lead to action being taken by the Ministry of Health, because on June 7, 1934, Sir Arthur Robinson, Secretary to the Ministry, received a deputation from N.A.L.G.O. to discuss the Bill.

The Ministry's Attitude

Sir Arthur said that it was essential that substantial agreement on the main points of the Bill should be reached before the Bill could be proceeded with and, in the circumstances, there appeared to be little prospect of the Bill making any progress in that session. He added, however, that the Ministry would obtain the views of the various interests concerned—e.g., the associations of local authorities, the Government Actuary, etc. The deputation were asked if they had any information as to the number of local government officers who were still outside superannuation schemes, and it was agreed that the association should obtain and let the Ministry of Health have information showing the number of officers and manual workers respectively (a) within superannuation schemes and (b) outside such schemes. This information has since been obtained and sent to the Ministry.

On July 11, 1934, a conference was held at the Ministry for the purpose of considering how far it was possible to arrive at a substantial measure of agreement on the subject of a compulsory superannuation Bill. There were present at that conference representatives of the Ministry, the Government Actuary, the Scottish Office, the County Councils Association, the Association of Municipal Corporations, the Urban District Councils Association, the Rural District Councils Association, the London County Council, and N.A.L.G.O.

Agreement on Principle

At an early stage of the Conference it became apparent that there was general agreement amongst the representatives of the local authorities present that it was very desirable that a compulsory Bill for the local government service should be passed with the least possible delay. A number of questions, however, were raised as to the position of servants; for example, should the servants of a local authority have the right to decide by ballot whether or not they should come within the superannuation scheme, and should a modified scheme be applied to servants whereby the first £ of their wages should be ignored for superannuation purposes?

Other questions on which agreement could not then be reached were as to the definitions of "officer" and "servant" respectively, the appeal tribunal in case of disputes, and the future rate of contributions which would probably have to be increased in view of the fall in interest rates. On the latter point, however, it was agreed that the rate of contributions of existing contributors should not be increased.

In view of the questions relating to servants which had to be determined, it was decided to hold a further conference to which representatives of the Trades Union Congress would be

invited. This second conference was held at the Ministry of Health on October 12, 1934, when, in addition to the bodies who were represented at the earlier conference, the Trades Union Congress was also represented.

At this conference a very considerable measure of agreement was arrived at, and a small joint committee was appointed to consider certain questions which were referred to it by the conference, and other points which it had not been possible to deal with.

The Joint Committee having reached agreement as to what it considered should be dealt with by the Bill, it was decided that N.A.L.G.O. should have prepared a new Bill containing the provisions approved by the committee. A new Bill has been drafted on these lines, and has been circulated to the various bodies represented at the conferences for their approval.

It is hoped that this month (January), N.A.L.G.O. will be in a position to say that a Bill, substantially on the lines of the new draft, has been approved by all the bodies concerned. In the meantime, the Association, through its branches, obtained promises from thirty-three Members of Parliament to take part in the ballot for Private Members' Bills which should have taken place on November 22, and to introduce our Bill if successful in the ballot. Unfortunately, the ballot did not take place, as the Government have decided to take the whole of the private members' time for the session. In view of the Government's very heavy programme of legislation there would appear to be no prospect of getting our Bill promoted as a Government measure.

Prospects of Agreed Bill

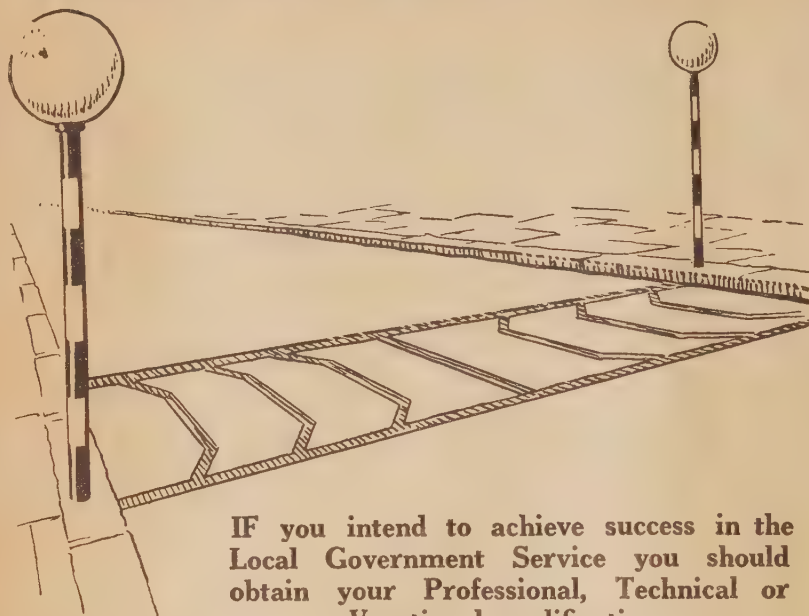
After discussing the position with Sir Henry Jackson, M.P., and the Association's parliamentary agent, the only course would appear to be for Sir Henry Jackson to introduce the new Bill as soon as N.A.L.G.O. is in a position to say that the Bill has been agreed by all the bodies concerned. As an agreed Bill, there is some hope that it might get a second reading without any objection being raised. In the event of it getting a second reading, it would in the ordinary course go to a standing committee of the House upstairs. In that event there would also be some hope that the Government could be persuaded to give facilities for the further stages of the Bill.

The representatives of the four associations of local authorities and of the Trades Union Congress who attended the conferences and meetings of the Joint Committee showed themselves to be as anxious as the representatives of N.A.L.G.O. that all the work which had been put in on the new Bill should not be wasted, and that they would do everything they could to assist in the direction of inducing the Government to give facilities for the Bill in the 1934-35 session.

LETT'S DIARIES

The well-known firm of diary publishers, Charles Letts & Co., have this year assembled their offices and factories into a new and up-to-the-moment building, laid out and equipped in the most modern manner, and it is due to this, no doubt, that their 1935 Diaries have just that little extra finish which is as hard to define as to acquire. To the attribute of quality in the 1935 series of diaries may be added that of variety, for there are diaries specially compiled for the business man and gardener; motorist, motor-cyclist and cyclist; housewife and poultry keeper; wireless fan and rambler; schoolboy and girl; scout and guide; and many others. There are diaries thick and thin, some a day to a page, others a week to a page; some in the desk and others for the pocket—each every variety of size or thickness the therapy want.

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- Board of Trade (Inspectors of Weights and Measures and Gas Meters).
- Chartered Institute of Secretaries, Incorporated Secretaries Association and Corporation of Certified Secretaries.
- Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board (both for England and Wales and for Scotland).
- Royal Sanitary Institute (Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods, Food Hygiene (A.R.San.I.), and Sanitary Science).
- Institution of Municipal and County Engineers (Testamur).
- Poor Law Examinations Board (England and Wales).
 - (a) Relieving Officers.
 - (b) Institution Officers.
 - (c) Clerical Assistants.
- Poor Law Examinations Board (Scotland).

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LONG SERVICE TO N.A.L.G.O.

Mr. W. G. Maers' Fine Record

The Town Clerk of Camberwell, as president of the Camberwell Branch of N.A.L.G.O., addressed the following communication to Mr. W. G. Maers upon the retirement of the latter upon superannuation :—

Dear Mr. Maers,
At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, the following motion was unanimously agreed to :—

"That this Committee place on record its very great appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Maers, over a period of thirty years, to the Branch and to N.A.L.G.O., and that a suitable letter be written to him, signed by the president, expressing the thanks of all members."

I need not say how very gladly I put the resolution into effect. During my presidency of the Branch I have had every reason to concur in the sentiments expressed by the Committee and felt by all members.

To successfully steer an organisation such as ours during a period of thirty years, to maintain its prestige and its high percentage of membership, especially having in mind the very difficult times of 1914-1918—and to retain the affectionate esteem of your colleagues, is an achievement to be proud of.

Your unselfish work for the welfare of your colleagues and the service, both at Camberwell and in the wider activities of the Metropolitan District, has borne fruit and will continue to do so.

On behalf of every member, I thank you sincerely and would ask you to convey to Mrs. Maers our appreciation of her self-sacrifice in sparing you so often in order that you could carry out the duties of the several offices of secretary, chairman and delegate.

Wishing you all joy in an active retirement,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) C. E. NEWTON,
President.

Mr. Maers sent an appreciative reply on behalf of Mrs. Maers and himself and expressed his desire to be informed if he could be of further assistance to the Branch.

POLICE OFFICERS' GUIDE

The "Police Constable's Guide to His Daily Work," now in its seventh edition, is published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd. (6s.). The authors are Mr. Benjamin Moore Gregg, retired Superintendent and Chief Clerk, West Riding Constabulary, and Mr. C. P. Brutton, Deputy Clerk of the Peace and of the County Council of Cheshire. Here police officers are told all they should know about their duties and shown how to deal with situations that arise. This new edition has been brought up to date by the inclusion, among other matters, of the more important statutes appertaining to the duties of police officers, which have come into force since the previous edition was published. Among these statutes are the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, the Firearms and Imitation Firearms (Criminal Use) Act, 1933, and the Service of Process Justices Act, 1933.

PEACE WITH HONOUR

"Peace With Honour," by A. A. Milne (Methuen & Co., Ltd., 36 Essex Street, W.C., 5s. net), is a volume which will make a deep appeal to all who care about the future of civilisation. Here is one of a cluster of phraseological jewels that fall from the pen of this universally admired author: "If London is not to be 'wiped out' at 8 by bombers leaving Berlin at 4, then Berlin must be 'wiped out' at 3 by bombers leaving London at 11. And the only German defence to the bombers leaving London at 11 is for the bombers leaving Berlin at 6 to 'wipe them out' at 10 . . . And so on for ever." Now imagine 214 pages crammed full of such brilliance and you know what you will get for your money. I say "will get," for it is one of those books which you simply must not miss.—D. J. P.

AN IMPORTANT POINT ON COMPENSATION

BY THE LEGAL SECRETARY

COUNSEL'S opinion was recently taken by N.A.L.G.O. in conjunction with two local authorities on a point of great importance affecting the suspension of compensation allowances for loss of salary. The point at issue was whether a compensation allowance, which had been granted under two private Acts of Parliament in respect of a reduction of salary consequent upon diminished duties, which allowance had subsequently been suspended owing to increases in the salary of the officer in question, revived and gain became payable when the services of that officer were eventually dispensed with under the provisions of a County Review Order.

FACTS OF THE CASE

The facts of the case were as follows, but for the sake of simplicity they are treated as if only one local authority were concerned.

In 1927 the County Borough of B obtained statutory powers for the extension of the borough boundaries. That Act contained the following provision for the compensation of such officers who might be affected by the extension of the boundaries.

"Every officer in office at the passing of this Act who by virtue of this Act or of anything done in pursuance or in consequence thereof suffers any direct pecuniary loss by abolition of office or by . . . diminution or loss of fees or salary . . . (and for whose compensation for that loss no other provision is made by any enactment for the time being in force) shall be entitled to compensation for that loss from the Corporation."

The Act also applied with certain minor amendments the provisions of Section 120 of the Local Government Act, 1888.

The extensions effected by the Act embraced portions of the area of the Rural District of W. Mr. Y was, at the date when the Act came into operation, a rating and valuation officer in the service of the Rural District of W, and was one of the officers affected by the extensions. Mr. Y's duties were diminished and his salary was accordingly reduced. Mr. Y submitted a claim for compensation to the County Borough of B, and was awarded a compensation allowance on the difference between his reduced salary and his average salary for the five years prior to that reduction. This allowance was duly paid from April 1, 1928 to March 31, 1929.

As from January 1, 1929, however, Mr. Y's salary was increased. A further increase dating from April 1, 1929 made his salary greater than the figure on which his compensation allowance had been assessed under the Borough Extension Act of 1927. As a result the provisions of Section 120 (7) of the Local Government Act, 1888, which were embodied in the Borough Extension Act in slightly amended form, came into operation and payment of the compensation allowance was suspended. Section 120 (7) as amended provided as follows:—

"If a person receiving compensation in pursuance of this section is appointed to any office under any local authority as defined by the Local Government and other Officers Superannuation Act, 1922, or by virtue of this Act, or anything done in pursuance of or in consequence of this Act, receives any increase of emoluments of the office held by him, he shall not, while receiving the emoluments of that office, receive any greater amount of his compensation, if any, than, with the emoluments of the said office, is equal to the emoluments for which compensation was granted to him, and if the emoluments of the office he holds are equal to or greater than the emoluments for which compensation was granted, his compensation shall be suspended while he holds that office." It was also provided by Section 61 of the

Borough Extension Act of 1927 that:—

"No officer shall be entitled to receive compensation under this Act for pecuniary loss and a superannuation or retiring allowance in respect of the same period of service and the same pecuniary loss."

On April 1, 1933, the County of S Review Order came into operation. By the provisions of this Review Order the Rural District of W was abolished and its area included in the new Urban District of W. Mr. Y was transferred by the Review Order to the newly formed Urban District of W and on April 7, 1933, his appointment was terminated by the Urban District Council of W in consequence of the Review Order. The Review Order contained the usual clause providing that any officer in office at the date of the order who by virtue of the order or of anything done in pursuance or in consequence thereof suffered any direct pecuniary loss (and for whose compensation for that loss no other provision was made by any enactment for the time being in force) should be entitled to compensation under the order for that loss. Mr. Y duly claimed compensation for loss of his office and, after an appeal had been made successfully to the Minister of Health for the added years under the Civil Service Acts and Rules in operation on August 13, 1888, he was awarded a compensation allowance based on the ultimate salary attained prior to the operation of the Review Order, but in the assessment of this sum the amount of the award under the Borough Extension Act of 1927 was excluded.

Mr. Y then wrote to the County Borough of B, informing them of the position and requesting that payment of the compensation allowance awarded under that Act of 1927 be forthwith resumed. The County Borough of B contended that the compensation allowance awarded under the provisions of the Review Order was all that Mr. Y was entitled to receive; that the right to payment of the award made in 1928 had not been revived. They argued that Mr. Y's position was due entirely to the operation of the Review Order, and that but for the Review Order Mr. Y would still have been in receipt of a salary in excess of the amount on which compensation was granted under the Act of 1927. Mr. Y, who was a member of N.A.L.G.O., wrote in for advice and his case was immediately taken up with the County Borough in question. It was contended on Mr. Y's behalf that the above-mentioned Section 120 (7) contained the only grounds upon which a compensation allowance could be suspended and that when those circumstances ceased to operate the right to payment revived. It was also pointed out that a compensation award was by the Act of 1927 to be a specialty debt due from the County Borough and could be enforced in like manner as if that authority had entered into a bond to pay the same. It was eventually agreed that a joint case should be submitted to a counsel to be mutually selected and that his decision be regarded as a final determination of the matter. Counsel decided that Mr. Y was entitled in law to a resumption of the annual payments awarded to him in 1928 and to their continuance so long as his emoluments fell below the emoluments in respect of which those payments were awarded. The following is an extract from his opinion.

COUNSEL'S OPINION

I have given full attention and consideration to the foregoing facts and provisions and also to the contentions and arguments of the respective parties set out in the case as well as to such other provisions of the Statutes and Order as seem to have any possible bearing on the question and, as a result, I have come to the con-

clusion that Mr. Y is entitled in law to a resumption of the annual payments awarded to him in 1928, and to their continuance so long as his emoluments fall below the emoluments in respect of which those payments were awarded.

In my opinion the effect of the Local Act of 1927 is to give a right of compensation to an officer who suffered pecuniary loss as the result of the operation of the Act; that compensation was assessed on an annual basis (although it could have been dealt with otherwise); Section 120 (7) of the Local Government Act, 1888, suspends that right while such officer holds an office the emoluments of which are greater than the emoluments for which (i.e., in respect of which) such compensation was granted. The wording of the sub-section last quoted I think recognises a vested right to compensation once it has been assessed and the provision for its suspension is I think conclusive on the point. The obvious corollary is that payment of that compensation must be resumed if and when the salary of the office falls below the appropriate figure. If the office is abolished and the salary wholly ceases then in my view the case is an *a fortiori* one. The fact that compensation is given in respect of this final abolition of the office held cannot in my opinion affect the point. The money paid in that case is not emoluments of an office held but compensation because the office is not held.

Even if the compensation under the 1934 decision of the Minister could be said to be an emolument of an office held by Mr. Y, the annual amount in any event is far below the 1927 emoluments, so that Section 120 (7) of the 1888 Act could have no application.

Section 61 of the 1927 Act is obviously aimed at preventing a double remedy namely compensation and superannuation for the loss arising under that Act and cannot have anything to do with a claim arising subsequently under a totally different and later Act. In any case the loss sustained in 1927 cannot be "the same pecuniary loss" as the one sustained in 1933. Nor is the assessment of compensation in respect of these two losses based on "the same period of service"; a period of service is not the same as another period of service merely because a number of years' service is common to both.

I have considered the effect of Section 123 of the Local Government Act, 1929, and the Eighth Schedule and the Review Order of 1933, but I can find nothing therein manifesting an intention to deprive an officer, who suffered direct pecuniary loss under any earlier statute, of any compensation to which he thereby became entitled or to substitute compensation under the 1929 Act or the 1933 Order therefor. Moreover it is a well settled rule that statutes should be interpreted if possible so as to save vested rights—per Bowen L.J. in *Hough v. Windus* 12 Q.B.D. 224 p. 237. It is a well settled rule of law that existing rights are not to be deemed to be destroyed by a statute unless there be express words or the plainest implication to that effect per McCordie J. in *Henshall v. Porter* 1923 2 K.B. 193 p. 197.

In conclusion in my opinion the method by which or the basis on which the Minister of Health arrived at his assessment of compensation for the loss arising in 1933 is irrelevant.

South Shields Town Council have appointed a joint committee consisting of members of the council and members of the local branch of N.A.L.G.O. to consider the celebration of the Centenary of Local Government in 1935.

A dance was held by the Eastleigh Branch in aid of the loan debt of the local Ray Therapy Centre.

"HELP YOURSELF" RESULTS

ONE HUNDRED GIFTS FOR N.A.L.G.O.

Voucher No.	Gift No.	Name	Branch	Gift
D.F. 2	1658	Archer, Miss E. E.	Kent C.C.	6 tins "Porso" Liquid Car Polish.
C.W. 1067	360	Brooks, Mr. J.	Enfield	Quantity of "Paripan" paint.
D.Q. 1007	605	Brown, Mr. F.	Lancaster	6 bottles port wine.
C.Z. 904	903	Barber, Mr. T.	Felling and Hebburn	Fountain pen.
C.X. 1882	1110	Russell, Mr. R. G.	Hampshire C.C.	1 gallon of paint.
C.Z. 700	1123	Blein, Mr. G.	Darlington	"Dunlop" waterproof.
D.D. 644	1470	Bell, Mr. F.	Scunthorpe	Fountain pen.
D.C. 679	1593	Bright, Mr. J. C.	Derby	12 tins Soap Paste.
D.B. 426	1626	Bratt, Miss R.	Leeds	1 cwt. garden fertiliser.
N.Z. 1587	1757	Bird, Mrs.	L.C.C.	Fountain pen and pencil set.
N.X. 867	205	Cameron, Mr. F. R.	Brighton	Box of apples.
D.L. 451	288	Cain, Mr. A.	Aberdare	Oak ornamental plant tub.
O.A. 1662	363	Cox, Mr. H.	Southwark	6 pairs Ladies pure art silk stockings.
N.Z. 634	480	Clarke, Mr.	Essex C.C.	Dinner for four, including wine at Restaurant Frascati.
D.G. 1343	731	Cross, Mr. C. F.	Isle of Ely	Fountain Pen.
D.K. 172	784	Crighton, Mr. R. G.	Stirling	2 dozen bottles invalid double stout.
N.Y. 1616	942	Cooper, Miss D. M.	Luton	3 bottles wine.
D.C. 983	1088	Caterer, Mr. G. E.	Wellingborough	Trouser length of flannel.
N.X. 1735	1125	Clark, Mr. J.	Widnes	1 dozen handkerchiefs.
D.A. 422	1271	Cooper, Mr. G.	Doncaster	1 pint "Vitacream" and 2 lbs. "Vital" weekly for a year.
D.M. 1488	1340	Clarke, Mr. T. F.	Eastleigh - Bishopstoke	1 lb. box of chocolates.
N.Y. 1975	1817	Chambers, Mr. R. C.	Newport (Mon.)	Fountain pen.
N.X. 1346	1144	Dobbs, Mr. W.	Rochdale	Golf jerkin value £4 14s. 6d.
D.O. 1248	1441	Dryden Miss	Dundee	Suit of underwear.
C.W. 1223	1302	Entwistle, Mr.	Finchley	2 suits Aertex pyjamas.
D.A. 1293	238	Feans, Mr. L.	Rawmarsh	Christmas cake.
D.P. 818	277	Fowler, Mrs. H. H.	Willesden	Gentleman's dressing gown.
D.J. 465	315	Franklin, Mr. C. R.	Cumberland	A Court Royal foundation garment in satin or brocade.
N.Y. 1874	1040	Gardiner, Mrs. M. A.	York	A parcel of furniture cream, floor polish, etc.
D.G. 2000	729	William, Mr. A. E.	Bristol	Fountain pen.
D.Q. 1642	2047	Grimshaw, K.	Stockport	Community plate silver plated oval tray value £3.
D.H. 419	2052	German, Mrs. L.	Southampton	A salmon.
D.J. 403	9	Hagan, J. H.	Bolton	£100 worth of goods from Harrods.
C.X. 1062	6	Higham, E. F.	Hendon	Bottle of Kummel Baczewski.
D.G. 255	158	Hensley, C. A.	Eastbourne	Turkey.
D.M. 393	306	Hollick, H. C.	Southend	2 dozen bottles Barclays Lager.
D.Q. 1861	665	Howson, T. R.	Warrington	1 gallon japan enamel with undercoating.
D.N. 1381	768	Hughes, J. E.	Monmouth C.C.	Case of Holly Brand Carten's dried fruit.
D.G. 1101	827	Hurst, E.	Bedford C.C.	Gentleman's felt hat value 25s.
D.B. 509	935	Howells, F. J.	Pontefract	A "Fitu" figure form, value £1 1s.
D.J. 181	1028	Harper, Miss E. M.	Barrow	Parker pipe and beacon lighter in case.
D.O. 1836	1126	Howell, A.	Cardiff	Jaeger pullover or cardigan.
D.H. 907	1305	Harris, H.	Barry	Suit of winter-weight "Aertex" Underwear.
C.W. 1260	1594	Hafinden, C. G.	Finchley	100 Cigarettes.
D.N. 562	1717	Heath, H. S.	Chislehurst and Sidcup	De luxe model of "Stumps," the new cricket game and a fountain pen.
N.W. 1082	1894	Hammersley, R. C.	Newcastle-under-Lyme	Case of cyder.
D.H. 539	1947	Hiscocks, Mrs. P. J.	Swindon	De luxe model of "Stumps" the new cricket game and a fountain pen.
D.G. 905	992	Johnson, Miss D. K.	Ipswich	2 rubber hot water bottles, 1 pair bathing shoes and 1 pair rubber gloves.
D.F. 1376	1436	Jones, Mrs.	Worcester	A No. 3 "Luxor" album, with extra leaves, mounting board and T. square.
D.O. 1623	1739	Jones, Mrs. G.	Montgomery C.C.	Small whole salmon any day in June.
N.W. 1647	1936	Jones, O.	Pontypridd	3 vases Silmos Lollies and 3-lb. Drum Chinese figs.
N.V. 1903	304	Keighley, Mrs. G.	York	Bottle of Creme de menthe.
D.O. 207	1640	King, H.	Aldershot	6 pairs community plate fish knives and forks.
D.C. 391	264	Legard, Mr.	York	250 Irises.
D.E. 75	604	Light, C.	West Riding	3 bottles port wine.
D.P. 788	1724	Lucas, T. F. C.	Willesden	De luxe model of "Stumps," the new cricket game and a fountain pen.
C.Z. 574	618	Moore, J. L.	Billingham on Tees	6 pairs Ladies' pure art silk stockings.
D.J. 554	1203	Marsden, E.	Darwen	100 cigarettes.
D.A. 1899	1237	Miller, Miss L.	Leicester C.C.	Box of smoked filets for Christmas.
C.W. 571	1312	Meadows, W.	Bethnal Green	Fountain pen.
D.B. 584	1429	Marshall, P.	Sheffield	1 bottle salad oil, 1 bottle frying oil.
N.W. 754	1761	Marshall, C.	Leeds	Case of timed fruit.
C.X. 1349	205	Massey, S. T.	Islington	Pair of chickens.
N.W. 827	578	Needham, E.	Kiverton Park	Leather covered "Pall Mall" lighter.
C.X. 967	1071	Newman, Miss M.	Hampstead	A supply of goods value £1 from the Direct Supply or 1 dozen bottles of their lemon squash limejuice cordials to choice.
D.B. 619	1481	Newbould, T.	Shipley	Wine bin to hold 4 dozen bottles of wine.
D.C. 813	1675	Norton, G.	Nottingham C.C.	Fountain pen and pencil set value £1 12s. 6d.
D.M. 150	1324	Oldcorn, J.	Westmorland	Bottle of Creme de Menthe and bottle of brandy.
D.J. 926	1648	Owen, W.	Isle of Anglesey	Fountain pen.
D.D. 391	285	Platt, J.	West Riding	An article (selected) from "Boots" value £1 1s.
C.Y. 1291	380	Phillips, L. J.	Exeter	Selection of Brooks novel joke bombs value £1 1s.
D.Q. 1776	607	Price, E. J.	Stretford	Turkey and bottle of port wine.
N.Y. 1131	911	Price, J. J.	Brecon C.C.	Fountain pen.
D.D. 757	1884	Paxton, P.	Nottingham	1 cwt. lawn sand fertilizer.
C.X. 405	83	Rozzell, A. W.	Dagenham	Ratner wall safe value £4 15s.
D.P. 1328	946	Robinson, C. S.	Blackburn	A sea rod.
N.Z. 849	1185	Rolt, G.	Luton	An Osier hurdle suitable for a wind screen and a Norfolk reed mat suitable for covering unsightly roofs, value 30s. to 40s.
C.Z. 825	62	Stephenson, J. H.	Easington	Gentleman's solid silver pocket watch or Ladies' solid gold wrist watch, both valued at £3 17s. 6d.
D.H. 1495	216	Shute, W.	Stockton on Tees	Pair of Lady's or Gentleman's boots or shoes, value £1 1s.
D.B. 1466	299	Storr, A. O.	Lindsey	12 lbs. Bowers Original Wiltshire Bacon.
C.Y. 634	513	Snelling, E. W.	North C.C.	"Aertex" hat and cap.
D.P. 1766	612	Smith, S.	Carlisle	Quantity of paint.
N.W. 27	647	Smith, A.	Rotherham	Desk stand and pen value £1 1s.
N.Y. 281	670	Sidebottom, W. B.	Liverpool	"Easiwork" Health Cooker, value £5 12s. 6d.
D.M. 825	882	Saunders, J.	Cambridge C.C.	14 lbs. self raising flour.
D.D. 273	1393	Seamer, D. H.	Lindsey	1 dozen stiff white collars.
D.K. 1592	1521	Smith, H.	Hull	Fountain pen.
D.P. 699	1922	Simmons, E. G.	West Ham	2 suits Ladies or Gentlemen's "Aertex" pyjamas.
D.A. 1318	399	Tomlinson, F. Jnr.	Rotherham	9 gallons bitter beer and a tankard.
D.Q. 743	925	Tutty, W. F.	Wimbledon	A week-end for two at the Grand Hotel, Clacton, or 3 bottles of wine value £1 1s.
N.Z. 1731	985	Taberner, J. W.	Wigan	Fountain pen and pencil set.
D.D. 683	1955	Thomas, Mrs. M.	Aberdare	250 cigarettes.
N.Y. 1367	1153	Vokes, E. J.	L.C.C.	3 bottles port wine.
D.C. 1485	1932	Virgo, L. T.	Hereford C.C.	A brass house name plate with name engraved and filled with wax, with a tin of metal polish.
D.M. 1233	149	Whitehead, Miss E.	Banbury	Suit of silk and wool underwear.
N.V. 1849	161	Whitton, Miss	West Riding	Down quilt, a bedspread, or a cushion.
D.N. 1775	392	Watkins, E.	Rhondda	Lady's model hat.
D.Q. 463	639	Williams, D. C.	Wembley	Pair of silver vases.
N.Y. 1420	1876	Wright, Mrs. J.	L.C.C.	Box of Ovaltine chocolate.
D.M. 1331	1895	Young, Miss D.	Bournemouth	Case of cyder.

The Winter is here

Are you insured against sickness?

The Nalgo Provident Society pays thousands of pounds each year to cover the expense of members' sickness.

Low Contributions — High Benefits

Monthly Contributions		Weekly Benefits	
s.	d.	£	s. d.
1	0	7	0
2	0	14	0
3	0	1	10
4	0	1	80
5	0	1	150
6	0	2	20
7	0	2	90
8	0	2	160
9	0	3	30

And two weeks' free residence at "Nalgo House," Matlock, to recuperate.

Nearly 75% of the contributions are returned each year. Obtain full particulars from the

NALGO PROVIDENT SOCIETY,
24 Abingdon St., London, S.W.1

BUYING YOUR HOUSE DURING 1935

By the SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SECRETARY

THE problem which confronts the average family man who wishes to improve his domestic surroundings is not "What type of house shall I buy," but "How can I buy a house." Choice is certainly not limited. The large amount of private building in progress to-day caters for almost every taste. In fact, a study of the advertisements in the daily newspapers and other publications is almost bewildering. Each has its particular attraction, whether it be position, design, internal layout or labour saving devices. On the other hand there is an abundance of "second-hand" houses to suit those who prefer one which has been "aired." These problems are easy of solution according to one's desires. The financial side of the question usually provides the greatest difficulty and this also is easily overcome if sound advice is accepted.

The man who invests his savings in good, reliable property should never have cause to regret it. It is a tangible asset. Share values can disappear rapidly, but not so the value of property. In two and a half years the Nalگو Building Society has invested over £1,000,000 in assisting members of N.A.L.G.O. towards property ownership. Nearly 2,000 members, most of whom possessed small capital, have grasped the opportunity of commencing to buy a house instead of continuing to pay rent.

In twenty years, or less, they will be presented with the title deeds. The majority of these members came to N.A.L.G.O. rightly expecting a square deal and to have their interests watched. They have not been disappointed and the excellent facilities offered are available to as many more members as care to take advantage of them.

What the Society Offers

Full details of the Society's scheme are set out in literature which can be obtained from the branch secretaries, local correspondents, or direct from Headquarters, 24 Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The rate of interest charged is 5 per cent., but if two-thirds of the value of a property, or less, is borrowed it is reduced to 4½ per cent. The normal maximum advance is 90 per cent. of the value and the following is an example:

Value of house	£600
Society advances	£540
Calendar monthly repayment of Principal and Interest for 20 years at 5 per cent.	£3 12 5

The member would have to provide out of his own resources £60, plus the legal cost of conveying the property to him and the mortgage. The legal fees vary, according to whether the property is freehold or leasehold, but an approximate estimate is £21 10s. Therefore, by investing, say, £81 10s. and paying to the Society £3 12s. 5d. per month, the member can become the owner of the house in twenty years.

If it is more convenient for him to spread the repayments over twenty-five years the monthly amount would be £3 3s. 11d. only.

The Society does not encourage, and strongly advises members against, assuming a liability which they will find it difficult to discharge. The wise plan from all points of view is for a member to buy a house in keeping with his financial position and responsibilities and launch out more ambitiously when he is able to do so. Every facility is given to a member to sell his house and an application on another property

under no circumstances can these be advanced in addition to 100 per cent. of the value. These fees are shown on this page and the guarantee premium referred to is a single payment to cover an insurance of 10 per cent. of the advance.

The Society's scheme caters for almost every circumstance peculiar to a member's requirements, including:—

1. A property already built.
2. A property partially built as a similar house will be inspected.

100% Advances

The following table shows the approximate total amount which a member will have to pay on obtaining a 100 per cent. advance when purchasing and mortgaging a house through the Society for his personal occupation. The survey and legal fees are in accordance with the Society's ordinary scale.

Purchase Price (or value if lower)	Guarantee Premium	Survey Fee	* Legal Fees	Stamp Duty	Total
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
300 ..	2 14 0	1 11 6	7 7 0	1 17 6	13 10 0
400 ..	3 12 0	1 11 6	9 9 0	2 10 0	17 2 6
500 ..	4 10 0	1 11 6	9 9 0	3 2 6	18 13 0
600 ..	5 8 0	2 2 0	11 11 0	6 15 0	25 16 0
700 ..	6 6 0	2 2 0	11 11 0	7 17 6	27 16 6
800 ..	7 4 0	2 12 6	11 11 0	9 0 0	30 7 6
900 ..	8 2 0	2 12 6	11 11 0	10 2 6	32 8 0
1000 ..	9 0 0	2 12 6	11 11 0	11 5 0	34 8 6

* These are exclusive of search fees, local and land registry fees where necessary, and other disbursements actually incurred by the Society's Solicitor and which cannot be accurately estimated in advance.

will be entertained. In approved cases where a member is without sufficient capital to provide part of the purchase price, the Society is prepared to advance the whole of the value. Stress is laid on "value," as this might not necessarily be equal to the purchase price. For this reason members should not commit themselves to purchasing until the Society has had an opportunity of valuing the property, or alternatively they should insist on adding these words to any written offer they make:

"... and subject to my being able to obtain an advance of £ from the Nalگو Building Society."

It is quite a simple matter to arrange for the Society to have a property valued as a member becomes responsible for the survey fee only and need not proceed with the purchase in the event of an adverse survey report.

The rate of interest remains the same in 100 per cent. advance cases, but the maximum term of repayment is twenty years. Also it should be borne in mind that the borrower must be in a position to pay the legal fees, etc., and

3. A property not commenced in which case the plans and specification will be examined and an advance promised on the work being completed satisfactorily.

4. If a member purchases a plot of land the Society will finance the construction of a house to his own or his architect's design, and make interim advances to the builder.

5. A member already owning a house can obtain a mortgage on it. This is very convenient if a substantial sum is needed for other purposes.

Probably the only exception which should be mentioned is that the Society will not make an advance on land only, but where a member is unable to purchase a plot on which to erect his house advance can often be given by Headquarters which enables him to overcome his difficulty.

The Society's aim is to render service to members of N.A.L.G.O. and every member who contemplates purchasing a house during 1935 should place himself entirely in the hands of his "own" society.

HYGIENE

The possession of the Diploma of the Chartered Institute of Hygiene is a valuable qualification and stamps one as an expert in health matters, and renders one eligible for membership of the Institute, carrying the title

M.I.H.

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HOME GARDENING

By WALTER P. WRIGHT

Author of "Roses and Rose Gardens," "Alpine Flowers and Rock Gardens,"
"The Wright Encyclopædia of Gardening," etc.

BUMPS through the letter-box into the hall in the latter half of December denoted in some cases Christmas presents proper and in others seedsmen's Christmas boxes in the form of catalogues. When one looks through these ornate publications and reads the descriptions of the plants offered, one wonders whether the firms employ a staff of descriptive writers specially endowed with powers of describing in glowing language some hundred or so varieties of, say, Sweet Peas (one finds a similar thing in the Rose and vegetable catalogues) without repeating themselves. If the seedsman himself does it, one can only say that newspapers might well be after him to attend Royal weddings and other joyous public functions. In the course of an ordinary newspaper column he could present dozens of vivid pictures calculated to send readers—lady readers at least—into transports of delight.

Well, here the catalogues are, and since we have to fill up the order sheets which accompany them, we may as well do so soon instead of waiting until the day before we want to sow, and also put our names and addresses on them before posting. The enclosure of a cheque may turn on our status as old or new customers, but I may say that I don't think the seedsmen deal with unpaid orders first, leaving the paid ones to the last, as some people believe.

We shall, of course, turn quickly to the Sweet Pea pages and then pass on without delay to the Antirrhinum section, perhaps wondering whether anything specially significant will be found under Snapdragons. You see, the Royal Horticultural Society issued in the autumn a request that growers of Antirrhinums whose plants had contracted the virulent fungus disease now so widespread should burn the whole lot of them and make a fresh start from seed later on. Do we expect to find the seedsmen protesting against that measure? Well, I ask you, considering that if the request was acted on nobody would raise stocks from cuttings in autumn and winter but everybody who intended to grow Antirrhinums would wait and buy seed in the New Year!

No, I have not looked for an indignation meeting on the part of seedsmen.

Of course, in issuing the request, the R.H.S. advertised the disease, and it is on the cards that some nervous souls will decide in consequence to drop Antirrhinums for a year or two, and certainly a considerable number will decide not to rely on them exclusively for summer bedding, but will reduce their plantings. On the whole, however, the Society's warning should have good results. Don't forgo Antirrhinums altogether, friends. Don't go beyond cutting down the quantity. I adopted this course myself last year and had no reason to regret the decision. Disease did, it is true, mar one bed, but not until October, and then I burnt every plant, limed the bed and replanted with Wallflowers, all within four hours.

Incidentally, the decision in Spring to reduce the quantity of Antirrhinums led to planting more Zonal Geraniums, and here I hit on what I consider to be a treasure. It is a silver-variegated Zonal of the class of the old Flower of Spring, but with a beautiful rich rose-red flower. I had great difficulty in getting the name. The florist's manager did not know it. The florist himself (head of a very large firm, too) was not sure of it. Eventually I think I got it as Mrs. Parker, under which it is correctly described in some of the catalogues (not seed catalogues, however). I intend to have at least one good bed of the *soi-disant* Mrs. Parker and advise every reader to follow my example.

Among other substitutes for Antirrhinums I may mention the several beautiful forms of *Salvia splendens*, such as Fireball, which will flower fairly early in the summer from seed if sown soon and will last far into the autumn. Then, of course, there are tuberous and fibrous-rooted Begonias, which can be grown from seed in time, provided an early start is made and (vital) there is plenty of heat available. Without heat Begonias will be too late in their flowering to fill the bill, and even plants raised from tubers may not be at their best soon enough. Young Begonias, however raised, will have heat, and if they do not get it they will crawl instead of run.

But tuberous Begonias are very adaptable. We had a fearful storm early in September, 1934, which cut one of my beds to ribbons, and fearing that the plants might not recover soon enough to do service in autumn, I lifted them with soil attached to the tubers, put them into some 6-in. deep boxes that I had, threw more soil between them, and set them in a sunny sheltered place. The result was a triumph. The plants recovered rapidly and were glorious until mid-November. What about the empty bed, however? Just Wallflowers, put in earlier than usual, that is all.

Other substitutes for Antirrhinums are *Nemesias* and *Verbenas*, both to be sown soon. I like to aim at a succession in some of the beds and had a 4-plant series in one of them which pleased me mightily. The first subject was Hyacinths, the second *Nemesias*, the third tuberous Begonias, and the fourth giant double Daisies. The Hyacinths, planted in the autumn of 1933, kept me going most of April, the *Nemesias* (prepared in advance, of course) followed and were in beauty until mid-August, when a reserve of tuberous Begonias took their place and enlivened the bed until mid-November, at which time a frost gave them their quietus and brought in the Daisies. And here at the middle of a mild moist December are a bedful of sturdy plants, and, what is more, a nice sprinkling of fine Daisy flowers. Quite a happy quartette, believe me.

Still with an eye to Antirrhinum substitutes, I may mention that a bed of the now-familiar Golden Glean *Nasturtium* (*Tropaeolum*) is by no means to be despised, for the plants form a dense mass of brilliant bloom if set about 15 ins. apart, and they last well. There may be trouble with aphids, and eradication is not easy, because the shoots and flower-stems of the plants are bunched close to the ground, with the result that it is difficult to bring an insecticide into play; however, this is not a fatal drawback. Plants of Golden Glean in a sheltered window-box were attacked severely by a small green caterpillar, which had to be fought strenuously to prevent wholesale destruction, but this pest made no attack on the bed plants.

Naturally some of my readers will want to know what is the matter with Coltness Dahlias as bedders. Well, they are not negligible, but partly because the singles have no lasting power when cut for the rooms I have come to the conclusion that a bed of dwarf Dahlias might well consist of a selected variety of the "Charm" section, such as Marianne, deep salmon; or Garden Love, rose on salmon. Both are dwarf and bloom in great profusion. They are really dwarf "Decorative" Dahlias. Plants would have to be bought, seed not being available.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION
KINGSTON UPON HULL DISTRICT REGISTRY

1934. B. No. 420

BETWEEN DOUGLAS BOYD (Plaintiff)

AND

ALFRED KYNO JACOBS (Defendant)

PUBLIC APOLOGY

AT a meeting of the Valuation Committee of the Hull Corporation held on the 10th day of July, 1934, I, Major Douglas Boyd, Valuation Officer of the Hull Corporation, which constituted a grave reflection upon the competence and impartiality with which he discharged his important duties. I the said Alfred Kyno Jacobs desire to make it plain that I was led into making these observations by some information which I am now satisfied was wholly erroneous. I now admit that I withdrew any imputation whatsoever upon the ability, character, and unwarranted. I wish to say that I withdraw any imputation whatsoever upon the ability, character, impartiality and honour of Major Boyd which might have been contained in or inferred from the language I used on that occasion. I recognise that my comments were without any foundation whatsoever. I deeply regret any pain which Major Boyd may have been caused.

In further reparation of the wrong which I have done to Major Boyd I have paid him an agreed sum by way of damages and agreed to indemnify him against all the costs and expenses of his Solicitors Messrs. Pearlman & Rosen to which he the said Major Boyd has been put in vindicating his high reputation.

This apology will appear in the *London Mail*, *Yorkshire Post*, *Leeds Mercury*, *Hull Daily Mail*, and the *National Association of Local Government Officers Journal* and the cost of the insertions in the newspapers and journal referred to will be borne by me the said Alfred Kyno Jacobs.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 1934.

(Signed) A. K. JACOBS.

Witness to the signing hereof:
BENNO PEARLMAN, Solicitor, Hull.

COST OF LIVING

Below, we give the average monthly percentage increase over the level of July, 1914, in the Cost of Living Index for the past six months: July, 41; August, 42; September, 43; October, 43; November, 44; December, 44; the percentage increases in each of the five groups on which the Index Figure is based are as follows:

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Food	25	27	27
Rent	56	56	56
Clothing ..	90	90	90
Fuel and light ..	70	70	70
Other items ..	75	75	75

One of the latest additions to the growing number of N.A.L.G.O. branch magazines is "Trubits," published by the Morecambe and Heysham Branch, the first number of which was published in November. It is a readable sheet, with plenty of varied news and comment, which should help to strengthen the spirit of N.A.L.G.O. in this branch and bring members into closer touch with each other.

We regret to record the death of Mr. W. J. Matthews, clerk to the Tyldesley Urban District Council, which took place on December 7. Mr. Matthews was a very active member of the Tyldesley Branch, and his loss will be greatly felt.

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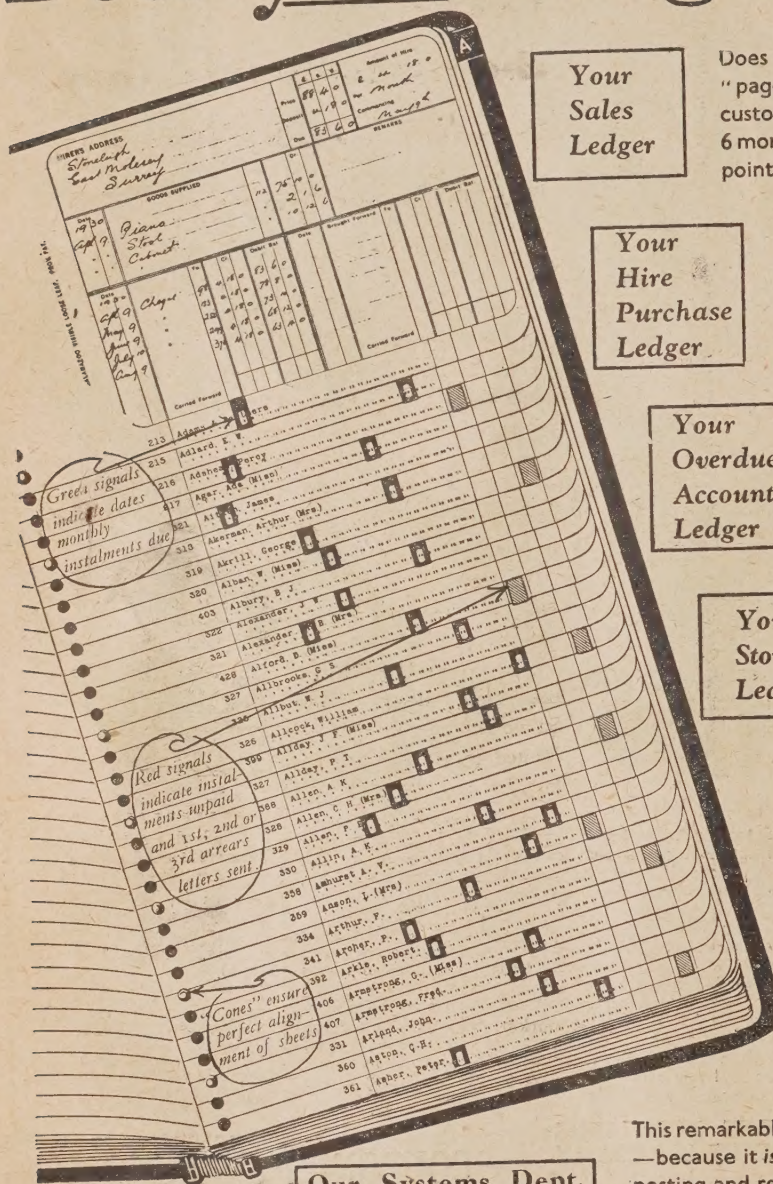
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Statement of Accounts

December 31st, 1934

LIABILITIES		£
Paid-up Capital	14,248,012	
Reserve Fund	11,500,000	
Current, Deposit & other Accounts (including Profit Balance) ..	420,793,245	
Acceptances & Confirmed Credits ..	9,746,914	
Engagements	6,242,724	

ASSETS	
Coin, Bank Notes & Balances with Bank of England	39,129,856
Balances with, & Cheques on other Banks	14,840,427
Money at Call & Short Notice ..	27,126,232
Investments at or under Market Value	118,490,133
Bills Discounted	18,505,695
British Treasury Bills & Treasury Bonds due within four months ..	46,014,724
Advances to Customers & other Accounts	163,815,240
Liabilities of Customers for Accept- ances, Confirmed Credits & Engagements	15,989,638
Bank Premises at Head Office and Branches	9,421,642
Other Properties & work in progress for extension of the business ..	1,024,565
Shares in Yorkshire Penny Bank Ltd.	750,000
Capital, Reserve & Undivided Profits of	
Belfast Banking Co. Ltd. ..	1,639,051
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North of Scotland Bank Ltd.	2,380,544
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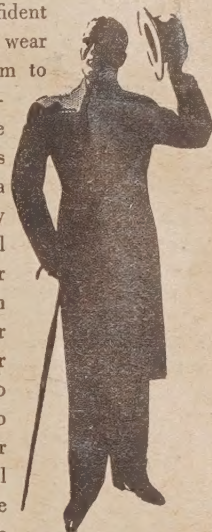
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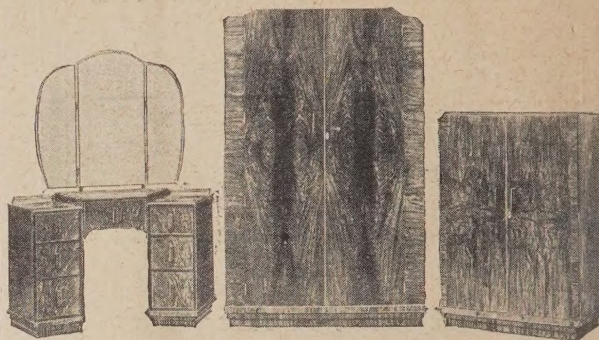
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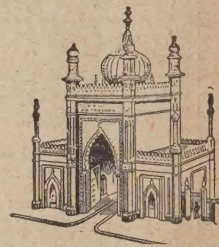
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